FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

3 APRIL 1984

Israel

Reaction to Jerusalem Attack — Israel will do everything possible to prevent a repetition of such attacks and will "severely punish" those who carried it out as well as those who ordered it, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir declared in a statement broadcast by IDF Radio. Although the Jerusalem attack "has no connection with what is happening in Lebanon," Israel will tighten crossing arrangements on its northern border because the "terrorists" apparently came from Lebanese territory, Shamir subsequently stated in a Jerusalem radio interview.

In Paris an anonymous caller told AFP that a group from Palestinian dissident Abu Nidal's organization carried out the attack. However, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio said the operation was staged by "our heroic revolutionaries" and declared that the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) had claimed responsibility. Both Baghdad Voice of PLO and San'a' Voice of Palestine radios maintained the DFLP's claim that Palestinian commandos had successfully stormed an Israeli Government building in Jerusalem, seizing hostages in order to secure the release of Palestinian prisoners in Israel. Baghdad Voice of PLO spoke of a "state of confusion in the Zionist entity" and asserted that Israeli military censorship is canceling important parts of foreign correspondents' dispatches on the operation.

Another Palestinian resistance group, the PFLP, announced that its forces shelled an Israeli settlement southeast of Tiberias with Grad missiles, Radio Monte Carlo reported. Jerusalem radio said the rockets exploded harmlessly north of the Israeli border in Lebanon.

Denial Over Tank Gun — The Defense Ministry spokesman denied as a "complete lie" *DER SPIEGEL*'s story that Israel has acquired a 120-mm gun as used in the FRG's Leopard tanks, ITIM reported.

Lebanon

Security suffered a "serious setback" when clashes erupted across the contact lines in and around Beirut on 2 April, Beirut radio reported. The fighting continued throughout the night but died down on the morning of 3 April, the radio said. Earlier, Foreign Minister Elie Salim met with Karen Brutents, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, who is scheduled to meet with President Amin al-Jumayyil shortly, according to the radio.

In another development, a man in the custody of the Amal Movement on charges of assassinating Shaykh Raghib Harb told journalists he is a member of the Israeli-sponsored National Guard in southern Lebanon and was paid by an Israeli officer to assassinate Shaykh Harb, Beirut radio reported.

Iran-Iraq War

Iran is massing "three-fourths" of its army on the border in preparation for a new large-scale offensive against Basra, Radio Monte Carlo reported citing an Iraqi military spokesman. If the offensive takes place, it will be the end of the war for Iran, the spokesman warned, as the Iraqi Army is ready to use "new methods" to crush it and inflict "the heaviest losses."

In other military developments, Iraqi aircraft bombed "residential" sections of Sar-e Pol-e Zahab and Dehloran on 1 April, killing two civilians and injuring seven others, the military communique carried by Tehran radio announced.

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Reports on Responsibility for Jerusalem Attack

Abu Nidal Group Claim

NC021712 Paris AFP in English 1651 GMT 2 Apr

[Text] Paris, April 2 (AFP) — A caller speaking on behalf of the Palestinian dissident group Abu Nidal today telephoned AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE headquarters in Paris and said the group was responsible for the armed attack earlier in Jerusalem.

He said that the "Martyr Kamal Adwan Group, operating inside Israeli-occupied territory, this morning carried out an attack with grenades and Bren guns against a gathering of Zionist soldiers in the heart of the city of Jerusalem, causing a large number of deaths and woundings."

DLFP Claim

JN021800 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1616 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] With the escalation of the Palestinian uprising throughout the occupied homeland and the popular resistance against Zionist occupation, and amid our people's celebration of the glorious Land Day anniversary, a group of our heroic revolutionaries operating inside the occupied homeland carried out a daring and heroic operation in the heart of Jerusalem today.

At 1000 today, the group carried out a large attack against Zionist establishments on King George Street in Jerusalem. Using machine guns and hand grenades, the group killed or wounded a large number of Zionists. Our revolutionaries took control of a Zionist building on this street, and seized several hostages. The group's leader, Brother Abu Rabi', sent a message to the Zionist leadership in which he said: We are not amateurs in killing, but pioneers in liberation. This message, issued by the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine — the front claiming responsibility for the operation — demanded that a number of Palestinians in Israeli prisons be released in return for the release of the hostages. The statement said that this release must take place according to certain arrangements made in cooperation with the Romanian and French ambassadors in the Zionist entity.

Reports from the occupied homeland said that there is a state of great fear at the operation site, and that the Zionist Army and police forces, which rushed to the scene, ordered the Zionists to vacate the scene of the operation. The Zionist enemy radio said that about 40 Zionists were wounded in the operation and were moved to hospitals. It added that other wounded people were treated at the operation area.

A state of confusion in the Zionist entity was seen to be dominating Zionist officials because of this heroic operation. At the beginning, Israeli Government officials said that one of the commandos hurled about 7 or 8 hand grenades from a bag he was carrying, while another commando fired his machine gun. The enemy radio said earlier that one commando hurled several hand grenades from the roof of house, and that 15 Zionists were wounded. The radio said later that the attack took place in the same street, and that 40 Zionists were wounded. News agencies noted that the Zionist military censorship is controlling all dispatches from foreign correspondents on the operation, and is canceling important parts of these dispatches.

This daring operation takes place within the framework of further escalating our revolution's armed struggle against the Zionist enemy inside the occupied homeland in order to affirm our revolution's credibility in considering armed struggle the essential method of struggle against the Zionist enemy.

Groups Claim Storming of Israeli Ministry

San'a' VOP Report

GF021648 San'a' Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Brothers. We broadcast to you this important news. A group of commandos from the Sabra and Shatila martyrs' forces today stormed the Zionist Ministry of Tourism, Industry and Commerce [as heard] in the city of Jerusalem and took control of it. The group detained all employees at the ministry including the ministers of tourism, industry and commerce in the enemy's government. The goal specified for this operation is to release a number of Palestinian commandos who have been detained for years in the Zionist occupation's prisons, and to ensure the safe departure of the groups which stormed the ministry from Palestine.

The leader of the two storming groups has addressed a message in this connection to the Zionist military command in which it warned the Zionist military command against any attempt to storm the building. It also held the Zionist military command responsible for (?harming) the hostages and the heroes of the day of the land.

We have received the information indicating that Zionist forces are trying to storm the building and that bomb attacks have begun between the storming groups and the Zionist forces.

The leader of the two storming groups has repeated his warning to the Zionist command that this act will threaten the life of all hostages, including the minister of tourism, industry, and commerce in the enemy government. He called on the Zionist command to promptly meet the demands of the two groups which [word indistinct] by the leader of the two groups from the building.

Baghdad PLO Radio on Attacks

JN022051 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1633 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] They sought to remove the Palestinian revolution from its heart in Palestine. Thus, the Zionists began what they called the Peace for Galilee operation, and the conspirators and the silent Arabs took upon themselves the responsibility of continuing to

protect this so-called safety. They sought to remove the Palestinian revolution from the contact lines with the Zionist enemy.

Yesterday, Katyushas fell on the Galilee, directly on the head of the Zionist security theory and on the heads of those who advocate security arrangements. The heroes of the Palestinian and Lebanese nationalist resistance shattered these theories in the South. Today, our revolutionaries dealt a lethal blow to the heart of the security myth. Let the enemy once again realize that neither its powerful war machine nor the barbed wire and the borders of the conspirators and the defeatists will protect it.

Greetings to the heroes, greetings to the strong arms which have overcome all barriers in order to reach into the heart of Palestine on the day of Palestine, Land Day. It is a revolution until victory.

Military Operations in South Lebanon Reported

31 March Report

JN311732 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 31 Mar 84

[Text] Southern Lebanon — The sons of our hero people in southern Lebanon escalated their resistance against the Zionist occupation by all the means in their control. A group of Palestinian and Lebanese nationalist resistance men attacked a Zionist military position last night, killing or wounding a number of Zionist soldiers.

The enemy has admitted the operation. However, the Zionist military spokesman claimed that only two Zionist soldiers were wounded as a result of the operation.

2 April Report

JN021936 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1616 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Palestinian and Lebanese nationalist resistance men are further escalating their heroic operations agaisnt the soldiers and equipment of the Zionist invasion forces in southern Lebanon. A resistance group planted a radio controlled explosive charge in a road used by Zionist patrol in Sidon. The explosion of this charge destroyed a Zionist military patrol and injured its personnel. The Zionist invasion forces searched the area for the attackers.

Reports from southern Lebanon said that Zionist soldiers opened intense and indiscriminate fire in Sidon as they were very tense following the explosion which destroyed the Zionist patrol. The reports added that the indiscriminate Zionist fire damaged 10 buildings and 15 cars. It also set two other cars on fire.

On the same level, another resistance group attacked a Zionist military patrol south of Sidon on the road leading to Tyre. The operation was carried out by a mobile group of resistance men riding in a civilian car. The group approached the Zionist patrol and fired their machine guns at it. Casualties from this attack are not yet known because of the security measures taken by the Zionist authorities.

Within a qualitative development in resistance operations, two Katyusha rockets exploded in an area near a Zionist settlement in upper Galilee. The explosion caused a variety of material damage.

In the Qir'awn area, resistance men used machine guns to attack a Zionist military patrol. The attack killed or wounded several Zionist soldiers. The Zionist invasion forces immediately searched the area for the resistance men. Another Zionist military patrol was attacked with machine guns east of Tyre. The attack killed or wounded several Zionist soldiers.

In Beirut, the Lebanese resistance front said that it carried out 39 military operations against the Zionist occupation forces in Lebanon during March 1984. These operations resulted in killing or wounding 57 Zionist soldiers. In a statemen it issued,published by Lebanese papers yesterday, the Front noted that these operations included attacks with explosives, rockets, and machine guns against Zionist targets in southern Lebanon. The Front warned against offering Zionist products for sale, and said that these products are being distributed by agents and are sold at prices lower than those of Lebanese products.

On another level, Zionist statistics in occupied Jerusalem showed that there were no less than 32 armed attacks against the Zionist Army in southern Lebanon last March. The statistics did not refer to the number of Zionist soldiers killed in these operations.

PFLP Claims Shelling of Israeli Settlement

JN021248 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1206 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] The PFLP has announced that a group of its forces operating inside [the occupied territories] shelled the settlement of (Ha'aron) southeast of Tiberias with 12 Grad missiles.

It is noteworthy that the Palestinian military escalation comes after the Palestinian leadership's recent meeting in Aden.

'Arafat Addresses Palestinians on Land Day

JN312036 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1638 GMT 31 Mar 84

["Text" of message by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, identified by his nom de guerre Abu 'Ammar, addressing the Palestinians on the eighth anniversary of Land Day — read by announcer]

[Excerpts] O sons of our great people. O our steadfast kinfolk in this land which God, the prophets, and believers blessed. On this glorious national day, the 30th of March, which you have eternalized through blood, martyrs, challenge, and determination; you have made this day a torch and a banner that streams high over the Arab land for the sake of the Arabism of our Palestinian land and our sacred and eternal right in this blessed land. On this day, you proceed with your continued uprising for the sake of the land and its Arabism, and for the sake of the human being, his freedom and dignity. Amid this burning kiln and the Arab darkness, you are lighting the torches of freedom fed with our

heroes' blood. We are, together, strongly and resolutely, facing the fiercest Zionist-U.S. conspiracies. Sometimes, these conspiracies donned an Arab disguise to strike at our people and their revolution. The objective of these conspiracies has always been to take our nation several centuries back. However, the will of our nation and people are strong in the face of tyranny. The revolution's will will not be softened and its determination will not be coerced while confronting the plot and plotters.

The past year was the year of challenges and of identifying stands. In this year, the people proved their loyalty and ability. In this year, free men defended their revolution, entity, and the organization that leads their national struggle faithfully and strongly. They defended their independent national decision-making in the face of the serious conspiracy the United States has hatched, Israel has carried out, and some Arabs involved themselves in. Our enemies thought that this conspiracy would be the end of our people and their armed revolution. However, your revolution is armed with these revolutionary arms and this fighter who enjoys faith, hope, and the determination to achieve victory — this fighter who emerged from the siege of Beirut to plant the tremor in the heart of the enemy is the same giant who emerged from the siege of Beirut to the siege of Tripoli where he besieged the enemies who collapsed before his strong convictions. And now we see that curses are falling on them, from Haig to Begin, until the last tyrant, passing through all those attempting to implement the U.S.-Zionist design regarding the establishment of the princelings statelets and the planting of this serious partition which is cancer in the body of our nation. They are also attempting to push the entire region into what Kissinger and his masters called for regarding the implementation of the conspiracy of balkanization in our region.

The enemy continues to implement its hellish plans to swallow, Judaize, change the features, and uproot the trees and human beings of the land. Your determination to confront this immense danger by all political and armed means of struggle is the only way to foil the enemy's plans and plots and reply to its racial terrorism. Our only option is steadfastness and revolution. This is the language of our dear land which is the spring that gives us hope, determination, and the will to continue the revolution and struggle until we achieve victory. This is our revolutionary option, our oath, and pledge.

However, their attempts are in vain. Gladly would they extinguish God's light with their mouths, but God will allow that his light should be perfected, even though the unbelievers may detest it. [Koranic verse]. The pledge is the pledge, and the oath is the oath to continue the march on the road of the revolution and the commitment to the land, its identity, soil, fragrance, and to our forefathers. The victory is coming. If God helps you, none can overcome you. [Koranic verse]. Your revolution is strong and large and it is with you. You are the supporters of this revolution. On the platform of this determination and challenge, all the plots have foundered on the rock of this giant revolution and the determination of this great people. This revolution was found to survive and achieve victory with the help of Almighty God, because it springs from the people's will and the peoples' will is the will of God.

It is a revolution until victory.

[Signed] Your Brother, Abu 'Ammar.

Leaves Morocco for Tunis

GF011652 San'a' Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 1 Apr 84

[Text] Brother Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces, arrived in Tunis from Rabat last night after holding talks with the Moroccan monarch Hasan II.

A Palestinian source said that the talks dealt with the situation in the occupied Arab territories, the developments in the Palestinian arena, and the current Arab situation.

Receives PRC, YAR Envoys

JN021823 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1616 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] In Tunis, Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] received the PRC ambassador in Tunis, who conveyed to him a message from the PRC leadership. Our correspondent learned that Abu 'Ammar gave the ambassador a message to the PRC leadership, thanking the Chinese government, party, and people for their support for the Palestinian people and their just cause. During the meeting, the PRC ambassador renewed the Chinese leadership's invitation to Abu 'Ammar to visit China.

Abu 'Ammar also received the YAR ambassador in Tunis, and reviewed with him the latest developments in the Arab arena. He acquainted the ambassador with the recent developments in the Palestinian arena, particularly the Palestinian people's heroic stand inside the occupied territories and their giant upheaval which swept the entire occupied homeland on the occasion of the glorious Land Day.

PLO Central Committee Urges 'Final Round' of Talks

LD301657 Kuwait KUNA in English 1534 GMT 30 Mar 84

[Text] Tunis, March 30 (KUNA) — The Central Committee of the mainstream Palestinian Fatah movement is seeking a meeting with the two major PLO organizations opposed to its policies as the "final round" of consultations prior to convening the Palestine National Council, the PLO's parliament.

According to a Central Committee statement released here Friday, the day after Fatah's leadership held a long-awaited policy-planning session, the movement would send a delegation to South Yemen to prepare for the tripartite meeting with the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP).

Meeting in Aden last week, the PFLP and DFLP, alongside the smaller Palestine Liberation Front (PLF) and the Palestine Communist Party called for the formation of a broad front within the

PLO to implement collective leadership and safeguard the organization's unity and policy-lines.

The Fatah statement said the divided mainstream movement's Central Committee, which is composed of supporters of PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, reviewed the results of the Aden opposition conference, but declined to take a stance on the issue.

The call for a speedy convening of the Palestine National Council (PNC) seems however to be a challenge to the Aden conference's call for extensive dialogue within the Palestinian revolution as a means of ironing out differences beforehand.

Earlier, both the PFLP and DFLP had gone on record as opposing an immediate resorts to the PNC, fearing that if this was done before consultations had been given time to take their course, existing disputes would only be exacerbated and institutionalized, threatening a real PLO split.

In Aden, they had affirmed that the broad national unity front they sought would not be an alternative to the PLO'S legitimate institutions, but they stressed that it should oppose "deviation" from the organization's policy, a clear albeit implicit reference to the recent initiatives of 'Arafat.

Earlier, the PFLP had said it would not meet Fatah Central Committee members until they clearly criticized the PLO chairman's controversial visit to Cairo last December.

The Fatah statement Friday said that the delegation would consult with South Yemeni officials on the Aden conference, and that a tripartite PFLP-DFLP-FATAH meeting would be called "depending on the outcome" of these talks.

It added that unnamed Fatah 'Arafat-loyalist representatives had met with PFLP and DFLP delegates in Tunis and Algiers for "contacts and consultations" which were reviewed by the Fatah Central Committee, but gave no details.

Sources said that a PFLP Politburo member had gone to Tunis to informally brief the Fatah leadership on the Aden conference's conclusions, and that moves were underway to reach a compromise on the issue.

Turning to internal Fatah issues, the Central Committee said it reviewed changes in the movement's organization designed to promote a new style of leadership, and stressed that it was concerned to call a general conference of the movement soon.

"Leadership committees" within the movement would be allowed specific functions within Fatah as part of the changes, the statement said without elaborating.

It also expressed satisfaction at the progress of the joint Palestinian-Jordanian commission recently revived by 'Arafat to seek the support of Arab regimes for Palestinians living under occupation, but declined to comment on the wider issue of political liaison between 'Arafat's supporters and the Jordanian authorities, a subject of deep controversy within the Palestinian movement.

The statement went on to say that Fatah leaders reviewed contacts between the movement and Saudi Arabia, Algeria, Iraq, Morocco and the Islamic Conference Organization on Islamic and Arab moves to prevent the transfer of the U.S. Israel Embassy to occupied Jerusalem, and approved Arab foreign ministers' March 13 resolution on the Iraq-Iran war.

The statement concluded with a greeting to the Palestinian people, both under occupation and in the diaspora, on the occasion of Land Day, which falls Friday.

The pro-'Arafat Palestinian news agency WAFA said that after the Central Committee meeting, 'Arafat, who headed Friday for Conakry to attend the funeral of late Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure, met with Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal for talks on the situation.

DFLP Official Discusses PLO Disputes

GF310740 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 0330 GMT 31 Mar 84

[Excerpts] Brother Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, DFLP assistant secretary general and PLO executive committee member, described the recent Aden meeting which included a number of PLO factions as the most important Palestinian step since the start of the crisis within the PLO. In an interview with PDRY television yesterday evening, he stressed the importance of the speech that was delivered by the brother secretary general during this meeting.

He noted the joint Soviet-Syrian communique which stressed the necessity of uniting the efforts of all Palestinian and Arab nationals and all their allies on the international level in order to restore the PLO's unity on the basis of its national and progressive line.

He explained that positive results were reached during the Aden Palestinian meeting and that a comprehensive national political initiative was jointly formulated and addressed to all the Palestinian organizations without exception. He pointed out that this initiative is aimed mainly at protecting the integrity of the PLO on the basis of the PNC resolutions, especially the resolution of its last session in Algiers, and is aimed at protecting and preserving the Palestinian institutions. It calls for initiating a dialogue among the various Palestinian parties so that it is possible in light of a comprehensive national Palestinian agreement to convene a new PNC to reinforce this agreement and restore the PLO's unity.

Fatah Uprising Leader Attacks 'Arafat, Supporters

JN301054 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0915 GMT 30 Mar 84

[Text] Dar'a, southern Syria, 30 Mar (SANA) — Brother Qadri Samih Abu Kuwayk, Fatah uprising command member, has praised the Syrian-Palestinian fateful cohesion in confronting both the Zionist invaders and the U.S.-Zionist challenges.

Brother Qadri also praised the support for the Palestinian revolution given by Syria and its valiant Armed Forces under

comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad, and their protection of the Palestinian people from all conspiracies.

In a popular Palestinian meeting held yesterday at the Arab Cultural Center in Dar'a at the end of the second political week for the General Union of the Palestinian Teachers organized for the Land Day anniversary, Brother Qadri asserted that Al-Asad's Syria has real credibility in the arena of struggle and sacrifice against the Arab nation's enemies, and that it has always accompanied words with deeds and has made great sacrifices for the sake of our nation's cause.

Brother Qadri condemned the deviation of 'Arafat and his clique from the line of the revolution and their violation of the PNC Charter and resolutions. He also condemned 'Arafat's meetings with the symbols of treason in Egypt and Jordan, and held a documented discussion of 'Arafat's stages and contacts.

Brother Qadri said: Our revolution and the Palestinian masses will take 'Arafat to task because of his deviations. King Husayn and Mubarak will pay for their conspiracies against the Palestine cause.

After explaining Beirut's victories and the abrogation of the agreement of submission, thanks to the steadfastness and sacrifices of Syria and the Palestinian revolution, Qadri praised the steadfastness and sacrifices of the kinfolk in the occupied territories.

At the end of his address, Qadri called for mobilizing the resources of both the revolution and Syria, the bastion of Arab steadfastness, in order to continue the struggle until liberation and victory.

After the address, Brother Qadri answered the questions raised by those attending.

Palestinian Front Official Praises Syria

JN301947 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 30 Mar 84

[Text] Dr Samir Ghawshah, secretary general of the Palestinian Popular Struggle Front, has praised Syria's steadfastness under the leadership of Struggler President Hafiz al-Asad. In a press statement, he said that the victories in the Lebanese arena were achieved due to the steadfastness of Syria and the Lebanese nationalist forces. He noted that these victories constitute a positive trend in the Palestinian revolution's course to topple the deviationist trend represented by Yasir 'Arafat and his gang.

ICO's Chatti Receives Egyptian Envoy's Credentials

LD021218 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1125 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Jidda, 2 Apr (SPA) — The secretary general of the ICO, received the letters of credence of Ambassador Ahmad Abu al-Khayr as Egypt's permanent representative to the ICO.

On this occasion, Habib Chatti made a speech in which he welcomed Egypt's return to the ICO, particularly in the difficult circumstances witnessed by the Arab nation, which require everyone's efforts. He stressed that the organization (?belongs) to all Muslims, pointing out Egypt is considered one of the states that founded this organization.

Report on PDRY Foreign Minister's Meetings in Tunis

GF311414 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 31 Mar 84

[Text] Brother Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali, member of the Central Committee and foreign affairs minister, met yesterday in Tunis with Habib Bourguiba, president of the Republic of Tunisia. During the meeting, President Bourguiba asked Ad-Dali to relay his greeting to Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, and chairman of the Council of Ministers. He lauded the role played by the PDRY on the Arab and international levels, in addition to the continuous efforts designed to raise the morale of its people.

The talks also focused on the course of the 81st sessions of the Arab League Council. Habib Bourguiba congratulated Brother Dr ad-Dali for chairing the session and thanked him for the reelection of Brother Chedli Klibi as secretary general of the Arab League for 5 more years, an event which Tunisia regards as a great honor to the Arab countries.

The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali; Foreign Affairs Minister Beji Caid Essebsi; Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi; and our ambassador to Tunisia, Brother Muhammad Hadi 'Awad.

On the other hand, Brother Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali met with Brother Ahmad al-Asbahi, foreign affairs minister of the northern part of the homeland, within the framework of consultations and coordination between the delegations of the two parts of Yemen.

Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali also met with the Tunisian foreign affairs minister; the head of the delegation of the Arab Libyan Jamahiriyah; the Saudi foreign affairs minister; and Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi. These meetings were within the framework of the consultations undertaken by the brother foreign affairs minister.

AR-RA'Y AL'AMM Says Iran Ignored Islamic Contact

GF021321 Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 1 Apr 84 p 1

[Report by political editor]

[Excerpt] It has been learned that the Islamic goodoffice committee contacted the Iranian Government a few days before the death of the committee's chairman [Guinean President] Sekou Toure and that Iran ignored the move and decided not to reply to it for the time being.

The sources said there are many options in the face of Iran's obstinacy in ending the war and that all of these options require the halting arm supplies to Iran and pressuring the superpowers into adopting more positive stands in dealing with this situation which could enflame the entire region.

On the other hand, it has been learned that the GCC countries will continue their efforts to break this impasse and forestall any threats to block the Strait of Hormuz.

BAHRAIN

Pakistani President Makes Short Vistit to Manama

Arrives 2 Apr

GF021408 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1400 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Manama, 2 Apr (WAKH) — General Ziaul Haq of Pakistan arrived in Manama this afternoon on a short visit to Bahrain.

Bahraini Amir Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah was at the forefront of those who received the Pakistani president.

Holds Talks, Departs

GF021511 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1455 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Excerpts] Manama, 2 Apr (WAKH) — Pakistani President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq left Manama this evening after a short visit to Bahrain which lasted a few hours.

Bahraini Amir Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah held talks with the Pakistani president on bilateral relations and means of strengthening them; current Gulf, Arab, Islamic and international issues; and means of implementing the resolutions of the ICO conference which was held recently in Casablanca.

It has been learned that views on all the issues were identical and that this will bolster cooperation between the two Muslim countries.

Information Minister Receives Tunisian Official

GF011230 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0838 GMT 1 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Manama, 1 Apr (WAKH) — Bahraini Information Minister Tariq 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Mu'ayyad met here today with al-Manji Bousnina, chief of the Tunisian Information Ministry Secretariat, and his accompanying delegation, which is currently visiting Bahrain. During the meeting, information cooperation and coordination between the two countries were discussed.

KUWAIT

Restrictions on Foreigners' Residence Visas Eased

GF311506 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 30 Mar 84 p 1

[Text] The Public Relations Department in the Ministry of Interior has affirmed that new instructions have been issued by the General Administration for Nationality, Passports, and Residence to all passport employees at the airport and ground and sea border checkpoints to allow the entry and departure of any individual carrying a residence visa even if this residence visa does not carry the stamp of the General Administration for Nationality, Passports, and Residence, unless the passport employee suspects that a residence visa is a forgery or has been altered.

A responsible source at the Public Relations Department made this statement in reply to a question on reports which the local press published on the issuance of instructions requiring official residence visa stamp in foreigners passports and not allowing the entry or departure of any individual unless he has this stamp.

QATAR

Foreign Minister Al Thani Receives Saudi Message

GF311312 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 31 Mar 84

[Text] Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani, minister of state for foreign affairs, has received in his office at the ministry a message from his brother Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Saudi minister of foreign affairs, on bilateral relations.

The message was conveyed to him by Ibrahim al-'Qdayl, charge d'affaires at the Saudi Embassy in Doha, during a meeting this morning.

Britain's Richard Luce Arrives in Doha 2 April

GF030837 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0530 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Doha, 3 Apr (WAKH) — Richard Luce, British minister of state for foreign affairs, [title as received] arrived in Doha yesterday from London on a visit to the State of Qatar which will last for several days.

SAUDI ARABIA

Saudi Commerce Minister Views U.S. Trade Relations

PM301609 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 28 Mar 84 p 7

[Interview with Sulayman as-Sulayyim, Saudi minister of commerce by As-Sirr Sayyid Ahmad in Riyadh — date not specified]

[Excerpts] In the following interview Dr Sulayman as-Sulayyim,Saudi minister of commerce discusses the most important economic questions both inside and outside the Kingdom. He also reveals his ministry's plans in regard to the fourth 5-year development plan and Saudi Arabia's policy of involving foreign companies in investment in the Kingdom in partnership with Saudi companies to achieve the principle of diversifying the economic base. Following is text of the interview:

Question: What is the purpose of your coming visit to the United States?

Answer: The visit is in response to an invitation by Malcolm Baldridge, U.S. commerce secretary, in return for his visit to the Kingdom at the end of 1982. Discussion during the visit will center on trade relations between the two countries. The volume of trade between the two countries had been increasing in past years, but recently it began to drop, especially in regard to our exports to the United States. This makes the United States our second biggest trade partner in terms of volume after Japan.

Also it is hoped that during the visit we will have an opportunity to ascertain the truth about the trends in tariff protection in the Congress because we are a country which is seeking to diversify its exports and not to depend on oil as a raw material and the Kingdom's sole export. As is known, we are trying to diversify through our petrochemical products and other industrial goods. During the visit we will have the opportunity to meet with some congressmen and ascertain their views regarding protection and the U.S. Administration's position on this matter. Briefly, there will be a review of trade between the two countries at the present stage which, I believe, is a new stage in the light of what prevailed over the past 10 years.

Question: With regard to tariff policy and the contacts you will hold with congressmen, what do you expect to achieve particularly since this is an election year and everybody is trying to safeguard his election interests which might be contrary to the reduction of protective tariffs? Moreover, it will be several years before the petrochemical products' turn will come for tariff reductions according to the list which the U.S. Administration is following.

Answer: The U.S. market is generally an open one, and there is an agreement between the Kingdom and the United States which goes back 30 years and which gives the Kingdom most favored nation status, and there is also preferential system [nizam al-afdaliyat]. But the United States excludes OPEC countries from this system. Studying this subject and following up the current trends is a kind of a precaution and preparation for what might happen. Otherwise, we believe that our petrochemical products are competitive and can enter world markets, and in actual fact they have entered it. But we are afraid of these protectionist trends. Some bills have actually been put before the Congress by representatives of states which have old petrochemical plants that do not have the efficiency which our modern plants enjoy.

Question: But it is observed that little in the way of products will go to the United States. Out of a total of eight plants only half the products of one plant and less than 10 percent from the rest of seven plants will go to the United States, In other words, the matter is not worth all this fuss.

Answer: This is what we are going to say to the Americans, that our share in the world trade in petrochemicals is minimal.

Question: It is observed that in your visits and contacts you are making efforts to market your petrochemical products. But there is another factor to be considered here, namely the other producers and particularly Canada, the Soviet Union, and East Germany. If we take Europe as a target for marketing your products we will find that in 2 years the Soviet and East Germans will be producing more than 2 million tons of methanol annually. They will be in a strong competitive position in view of their proximity to the market and because their factory investments are less since the technology used in them is less advanced, in addition to the fact that, like you, they use the same cheap gas. What is your comment?

Answer: I believe that the studies we conducted before and after establishing our industries confirm that we will be competitive in the market. The closest country to us with respect to efficiency could be Canada. And in view of the quality of our products and the atmosphere of confidence in Saudi Arabia we can compete with any industry, but we do not want barriers like tariff protection. For this reason we are going to talk to our friends on this matter.

Question: But there is a surplus of petrochemical products in the market which, as a result of competition among the producers, leaves the initiative in the hands of the consumers. Is there a possibility of coordination or will you leave the matter to the market alone, in which case the fittest will survive?

Answer: We always accept the facts of the market. We will compete with others and if there is strong competition we must reduce our costs so as to be able to compete with them.

Question: what is the truth regarding what is being said about asking the companies that win contracts in the Kingdom to invest part of the cost of those contracts in joint projects in the Kingdom?

Answer: The principle is simple. We pay vast sums to import our strategic requirements from other countries. We would like to take this opportunity to establish Saudi industries that would include the production of part of the requirements we import instead of all these coming from abroad. We would like, for example, for 30 percent of these strategic requirements to be produced locally and to include the transfer of technology.

Question: This subject, which has been called an **offset program** [published in English], has been linked to the control and communications project required for the AWACS aircraft. It has been said that the company which wins the contract will be asked to invest 30 to 35 percent of the value of the contract in joint projects in the Kingdom. Is this true?

Answer: This is what we are trying to do.

Question: What is the size of the contract on which this system is to be applied? For example, $2 billion?

Answer: I cannot enter into details as we are still in the stage of exchanging views.

Question: What are the strategic fields to which you are referring and for which requirements you want to provide 30 percent locally?

Answer: For example, communications for air defense. This requires the manufacture of certain materials and the transfer of certain technology.

Question: Will you apply this idea to all the major contracts that you will conclude?

Answer: Of course, we are seeking to expand cooperation in this field.

Pakistan's Ziaul Haq Meets King Fahd, Departs

LD021413 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1352 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Excerpts] Riyad 2 Apr (SPA) — A meeting was held today between His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and His Excellency the President of Pakistan Ziaul Haq, immediately after the president of Pakistan arrived in Riyadh from Al-Madinah within the framework of his current visit to the Kingdom.

After the meeting the president of Pakistan left Riyadh at the end of his few day visit to the Kingdom. His Majesty King Fahd headed those who saw him off. He also was seen off by HRH Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and a number of senior officials.

Spain's Foreign Minister Departs 2 April

LD021303 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1000 GMT 2 Apr 8

[Excerpt] Riyadh 2 Apr (SPA) — The Spanish foreign minister, Fernando Moran, and the accompanying delegation left Riyadh before noon today following a several days official visit to the Kingdom.

U.S. Aware of Gravity in Moving Embassy to Jerusalem

LD302247 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 30 Mar 84

[Commentary by Husayn al-Askari]

[Text] The U.S. secretary of state has warned Congress against approving a decision to transfer the American Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. He said such a measure would create problems for the United States all over the Islamic world.

The increasing feeling of bitterness in the Islamic world toward the U.S. Congress embarking on studying a bill to transfer the American Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem has its justification, because if the bill is passed, a state of confrontation between the United States and the Islamic world would begin. It seems the American Administration is aware of the dimensions of this matter and its effects on U.S. relations with the Islamic countries. Therefore, the efforts of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz to emphasize his country's unwillingness to take such a step and also those of the American President, who expressed his disapproval of the transfer of the embassy to Jerusalem, might indicate an awareness of the gravity of taking such a step. However, what makes the problem worse and gives it dimensions whose consequences the American Administration might not be able to control is the dreadful race for the forthcoming American presidential election. The candidates have turned the process of transferring the American Embassy to Jerusalem into one of the essential cards in their game to appease the Jewish votes.

This aspect should be taken into consideration despite the U.S. Administration's adherence to the UN Security Council Resolution issued in 1980 demanding its member countries to refrain from transferring their embassies to Jerusalem, because the holy city has a special status, being a land occupied by Israel in the 1967 war; and this occupation must not acquire a legal character. The international community had responded and still responds to this resolution. However, the enemy tried to confront the international community with a fait accompli and declared Jerusalem the capital of the Zionist entity on 30 July 1980. Moreover, the Israeli enemy continued, and is continuing its pressure in order to create a new reality, not only in Jerusalem but in various parts of the occupied Arab territories so as to perpetuate the occupation. However, the stand of the Islamic countries toward Israel will definitely go beyond the limits of denunciation and feelings of bitterness to become a practical stand that will bring Israel back to reason. This is the stand the Islamic nation seems determined to adopt. It is a matter whose dimensions the U.S. Administration is aware of and this is what the American secretary of state wanted to make clear when he told one of the Senate committees that to take such a measure would create problems for the United States all over the Islamic world.

PDRY

Palestinian-Yemeni Talks Begin in Aden

GF021958 Aden Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1815 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Excerpt] The first session of the Palestinian-Yemeni talks was held at the residence of the Palestinian delegation at the guest palace in Aden yesterday evening. On the Palestinian side, the session was attended by Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], Brother Abu al-Hawl, Brother Saqr abu Nizar, and Brother 'Abbas Zaki. On the Yemeni side it was attended by 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir, member of the Political Bureau; Mahmud an-Najashi, member of the YSP Central Committee; and 'Ali 'Abd ar-Rahman, head of the Arab Homeland Department.

An atmosphere of total sincerity, mutual confidence and friendship between the two sides prevailed the meeting, during which all the developments in the Palestinian arena and the attempts to strike at the Palestinian revolution and damage its legitimate establishment were discussed.

Brother Hani al-Hasan, member of the Fatah Central Committee, arrived in Aden today to participate in talks currently being held in Aden with the party and state officials on the recent developments of the situation on the Arab arena in general, and the Palestinian arena in particular.

Chairman Receives DPRK Delegation, Holds Talks

GF010730 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 0330 GMT 1 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, received yesterday Comrade Chong Chun-ki, candidate member of the Korean Workers' Party Political Bureau and vice premier of the DPRK, who conveyed a verbal message to the brother secretary general from Kim Il-song, secretary general of the Korean Workers' Party Central Committee and president of the DPRK.

During the meeting, bilateral relations and dimensions to develop them, a number of issues of mutual interest, and the two countries' stances toward them, were discussed.

The brother secretary general expressed his satisfaction at the relations between the two countries and affirmed the importance of strengthening them within the framework of the anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist joint struggle which serves the interests of the two friendly peoples.

On his part, Comrade Chong expressed his happiness at meeting the brother secretary general and visiting our country which will enable him to become acquainted with the course of our revolutionary experience, under the leadership of the YSP and to study the dimensions of bilateral relations.

YAR

Yasir 'Arafat Arrives in San'a', Makes Statement

GF030648 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Brother struggler Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, arrived in San'a' early this morning on a visit to the republic which will last for several days.

In a statement to SABA' NEWS AGENCY, Brother 'Arafat stated that he is visiting to continue discussions with the brother leader, the secretary general of the General People's Congress. He said the discussions will focus on developments taking place in the Palestinian, Arab, and international arenas and on the need to continue contacts and talks. He pointed out that he will apprise the brother leader of the latest developments in the Palestinian arena. He went on to say that he will take part in the general conference of the Palestinian writers and journalists association which opens today in San'a'.

Answering a question about the daring operation which the fedayeen executed in occupied Jerusalem yesterday, he said that this is a message from the Palestinian people who will not forget the Sabra and Shatila massacre.

Upon arrival he was received at the airport by Dr Hassan Makki, adviser to the brother president and member of the Permanent Committee; Hikmat Zayd, PLO representative in San'a'; 'Abdallah Abu al-Hunayd, director of the office of the commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces; Fathi 'Arafat, head of the Palestinian Red Crescent; and a representative of presidential protocol.

Foreign Minister Al-Asbahi Returns From Tunis

GF311800 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 31 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Dr Ahmad al-Asbahi, minister of foreign affairs and secretary of the Standing Committee, returned to San'a' today from Tunis after leading the delegation of the republic to the 81st session of the Arab League Council which concluded this evening.

UAE

Austrian Chancellor Makes Official Visit

Arrives 31 Mar

GF310826 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0740 GMT 31 Mar 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 31 Mar (WAKH) — Dr Fred Sinowatz, Austrian chancellor, arrived in Abu Dhabi this morning on a official visit to the UAE that will last 2 days.

He was received by Shaykh Hamdan ibn Muhammad, deputy prime minister, and a number of UAE ministers and officials.

Holds Talks

GF011236 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 1 Apr 84

[Text] A session of official talks was held at the cabinet headquarters this morning between the delegations of the UAE and the Republic of Austria.

The UAE side in this session was chaired by His Highness Hamdan ibn Muhammad, deputy prime minister. The session was attended by Sa'id ar-Raqbani, minister of agriculture and fisheries; Rashid 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs; Hamad 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Midfa', minister of health and acting minister of economy and trade; Khalfan ar-Rumi, minister of labor and social affairs and acting minister of electricity and water; and Nasir an-Nuways, director of the Abu Dhabi Fund for Arab Economic Development.

The Austrian side was headed by Austrian Chanellor Dr Fred Sinowatz. The session was attended by Erich Schmidt, secretary of state for trade and consumer protection and a number of the accompanying delegation members.

Following the session of talks, Rashid 'Abdallah said that Deputy Prime Minister Shaykh Hamdan ibn Muhammad has affirmed the UAE's desire to strengthen and develop bilateral relations and cooperation between the two countries in various political, economic, and trade fields. He said that the talks focused on the Palestinian issue, the situation in the Middle East region, the continuation of the Iraq-Iran war and its reflections on the security in the region and the international security, and a number of other issues of mutual interest.

Rashid 'Abdallah said that the talks also included a comprehensive review of the economic, trade, technical, agricultural, and health cooperation between the two countries.

His Highness Shaykh Hamdan ibn Muhammad and his excellency the Austrian chancellor held a short meeting before the session of talks, which was attended by a number of members of the two delegations.

Comments on Relations

AU021315 Vienna ARBEITER-ZEITUNG in German 2 Apr 84 p 1

[Text] Abu Dhabi (AZ) — At a press conference marking the end of his 2-day visit to Abu Dhabi, Chancellor Sinowatz on Sunday declared that Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, was the rightful representative of the PLO and that he was ready at any time to receive him. Sinowatz arrived in Vienna on Sunday night.

At the press conference Sinowatz confirmed that Austria will adhere to its hitherto pursued Middle East policy, and advocated a strengthening of relations between Austria and the Arab countries.

At the same time the chancellor unequivocally advocated Israel's right of existence as well as the Palestinians' right to self-determination. He called for negotiations including all parties involved in the conflict, and referred both to the Arab peace plan of Fes and the American plan as "positive elements" in paving the way for a solution of the Middle East conflict.

The chancellor described Austria's relations with the UAE as "excellent" and declared that Austria was extraordinarily interested in expending its relations with all Arab countries.

Winds Up Visit

GF011623 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 1 Apr 84

[Excerpts] Austrian Chancellor Dr Fred Sinowatz left the country for home this afternoon after a 2-day official visit to the UAE. Deputy Prime Minister Shaykh Hamdan ibn Muhammad was at the front of those who bid farewell to him.

Austrian Chancellor Dr Fred Sinowatz described the relations of his country with the UAE as excellent. He said that he is satisfied with the results of his meeting with UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan. In an interview with the UAE television from Abu Dhabi, Dr Sinowatz said that he cannot hide his admiration of his highness the president of the state.

The Austrian chancellor referred to the results of his talks with the officials in the UAE and described them as clear and open. He said that the talks included all the problems which concern the world in addition to the economic issues which concern the two countries. He said that the strengthening of bilateral economic relations is a helpful factor for increasing rapproachment and understanding between Austria and the UAE. He pointed out that he affirmed to his highness the president of the state during his meeting with him that Austria will continue its efforts to establish peace in the Middle East. He said that the previous stands of Austria will remain the same as before.

Dr Sinowatz announced that his country's foreign policy in the shadow of his new government will continue according to its previous course. He said that Austria will do what it can to strengthen friendship relations with the Arab countries. He said that peace in the Middle East cannot be achieved without giving the Palestinian people the right to self-determination.

Kuwaiti Paper Interviews Ash-Shariqah Ruler

GF302028 Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 29 Mar 84 PP 1, 18

[Exclusive interview with Shaykh Sultan ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi, member of the UAE Supreme Council and ruler of Ash-Shariqah, by unidentified *AS-SIYASAH* correspondent — no date given]

[Excerpt] [*AS-SIYASAH*] Your Highness Shaykh Sultan, what is the effect of the international economic crisis on your country?
[Shaykh Sultan] Our economic situation started to improve at the beginning of the year. Unfortunately, much of the world's money is still being spent on purchasing arms. Had the money being spent on arms been used to eliminate worldwide hunger, the current situation would be different. Our economy in comparison with other countries is good. We want to make our peopie prosperous. We want to be united to create a society that is different from that of Western concrete society.

[*AS-SIYASAH*] Your Highness Shaykh Sultan, it is said that there is a federal resolution to increase the price of oil by $7 a barrel in the UAE so that the added money can be allocated to the federal budget. What is your view on this?

[Shaykh Sultan] This a good resolution because the UAE has limited revenue resources which conversely effects the budget. We do not oppose this resolution; in fact we support it.

[*AS-SIYASAH*] Your Highness Shaykh Sultan, is the federation in a good shape?
[Shaykh Sultan] There are differences but this is only natural as we proceed along the federation process. Though we may differ, we discuss the issues and arrive at a compromise. This is the way. We are not concerned about differencesbecause we adhere to the principle of federation. The real danger would be if we leave issues unresolved. You can say that the federation is in a good shape.

[*AS-SIYASAH*] Your Highness Shaykh Sultan, why are you going to Muscat?
[Shaykh Sultan] In response to an official invitation: I have not visited Oman, so I decided to make this visit. The invitation is from by brother Sultan Qabus. It also will be a chance to review the situation in the region.

GCC's Bisharah Makes Visit, Holds Meetings

Meets President

GF021447 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1415 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Al-Khaznah, 2 Apr (WAKH) — UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan met here today with GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Bisharah.

During the meeting, which was attended by Shaykh Sultan ibn Zayid, the two sides reviewed the GCC's achievements and various activities and its future working plan as well as regional development projects.

Bisharah left Abu Dhabi for Riyadh this afternoon.

Speaks With Foreign Minister

GF021225 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0832 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 2 Apr (WAKH) — A meeting was held here todaybetween Mr Rashid 'Abdallah, UAE minister of state for foreign affairs, and Mr 'Abdallah Ya'qub Bisharah, GCC secretary general, who is currently visiting Abu Dhabi.

In a statement he made following the meeting, Mr Bisharah said that he reviewed, with Mr Rashid 'Abdallah, the issues that are of interest to the GCC in developing the region and in following up the execution of GCC ministerial council's decisions adopted at its recent meeting in Riyadh, especially political and economic issues.

Mr Bisharah arrived here yesterday for a 2-day visit.

Delegation Returns Home From Tunis Meeting

GF021745 Manama WAKH in English 1630 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 2 Apr (WAKH) — A UAE delegation returned home today after participating in the meeting of 81st ordinary session of the Arab League Council which concluded its deliberations in Tunis last week.

Mohammad Husayn ash-Shu'lah, director of the Arab Affairs Department at the Foreign Ministry who led the delegation said in a statement on arrival the outcome of the meeting was positive and that an atmosphere of understanding prevailed regarding all political and economic subjects on its working agenda.

He also added that the council adopted a number of decisions prominent among which was a call for holding an emergency meeting of the Arab foreign ministers on May 15 to discuss the possibility of holding the 13th Arab summit conference and to call upon the Arab foreign ministers to support the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) request for holding an emergency meeting of the Islamic foreign ministers to discuss the threats being witnessed by the holy city of Jerusalem and the standing pressure in the United States to transfer its embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

He also added that the Arab League Council adopted a number of other decisions calling for supporting the steadfastness of the Arab population in the occupied territories and the national resistance in south Lebanon.

He also said that the council endorsed a number of economic and cultural subjects on its agenda.

UAE Daily Urges GCC to Accelerate Defense Planning

GF301154 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 29 Mar 84 p 6

[Editorial: "Self-Reliance in Defence"]

[Text] The passing out of the first batch of UAE pilots from the Dubai Aviation School on Tuesday marks another step forward in the country's search for self-reliance in defence. In an interview on the occasion of the passing out parade — which was witnessed by the deputy prime minister of the UAE and crown prince of Dubai, Shaykh Maktum ibn Rashid — the defence minister, Shaykh Muhammad ibn Rashid, said that the graduation of 20 national pilots strengthened faith in the people's capacity to shoulder the responsibility for their own defence. He urged youth to join the armed forces in greater numbers, promising everyone who did so the fullest support and encouragement from the state. The completion of the Aviation School's first 23-month course should be seen in the context of the rapid modernisation of the country's defence forces. Last month, the ninth batch of cadets had graduated from the Zayid Military Academy and a number of specialised training courses have also been conducted recently, including commando and parachutist courses.

Throughout the Gulf, there is a growing realisation of the need to press ahead with achieving self-sufficiency in defence. At the meeting of AGCC defence ministers in February, it was reiterated that the strategic nature of the region dictated increased defence coordination among the member-states and greater efforts to mobilise all our capability. Earlier, the first ever joint AGCC military exercises were held at which valuable lessons were learnt with regard to cooperation among the region's armed factors. There is of course the constant menace posed by the aggressive policies of the Zionist entity and then there are the covetous ambitions of the big powers. The best way to ward off these threats would be for the Gulf states to fully exploit their own resources — and how tragic it is, one must reflect again, that two countries of the region are permitting their precious resources in men and material be drained away in a senseless conflict and creating, moreover, a dangerous potential for destabilisation. One can only pray that the example of cooperation being set by the AGCC will be more widely emulated in the region and its member-states' commitment to stand on their own feet will gain wider respect. Work on the planned joint AGCC defence strategy should meanwhile be stepped up.

Paper Comments on Jerusalem 'Operation'

GF030858 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0640 GMT 3 Apr 84

[From press review]

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 3 Apr (WAM) — The UAE newspaper *AL-KHALIJ* said that the daring Jerusalem operation could be "the most important military operation in the history of the modern Palestinian struggle" and that its importance lies in its timing.

Commenting editorially, the newspaper pointed out that this operation reflects anew "the failure of all the goals of the Zionist

invasion of Lebanon", since this invasion took place under the slogan of "destroying the military structure of the Palestinian revolution and ensuring the security of Galilee". The paper went on to say that this operation proves that the Palestinian military structure is not merely stationary bases but, it is in the first place, a struggler who adheres to his rights and an enlightened leadership which is far-sighted and which knows how to act.

The paper indicated that the operation has another important dimension, which is (?eliminating) forever the apparition of those who are panting after "the mirage of solutions and the illusions of initiatives". Moreover, this operation took place after a year "during which we have listened to reports about schisms, differences, and internecine fighting among the children of the revolution".

Concluding, the paper stressed that the Jerusalem operation demonstrated the genuine basis of the Palestinian struggle, which is the only method for effectively building Palestinian unity. The paper called for opening borders to Palestinian strugglers to provide momentum for the escalation of military operations and create a new page in the history of struggle with the enemy.

Ghali Says Guinea Coup 'Internal Affair'
NC031305 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, has commented on the news about the coup that took place in Guinea today by saying that the Arab Republic of Egypt, while pursuing the principle of noninterference in the internal affairs of any state, is currently following up what is taking place in Guinea, but believes that it is Guinea's internal affairs. Egypt believes that the coup that took place in Conakry today does not belittle the leadership of the late President Sekou Toure at the African, the nonaligned, or the Islamic levels. Sekou Toure will remain an inspiration for the African peoples in looking to a better future.

Ghali Holds Talks With Cypriot Official 2 Apr
NC022003 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1910 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Cairo, 2 Apr (MENA) — Official talks between Egypt and Cyprus were held at the Foreign Ministry this evening under the chairmanship of Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, and Yeoryios Iakovou, Cypriot minister of foreign affairs, who is currently visiting Cairo.

During the 90-minute talks, international issues of common interest were reviewed, especially nonaligned issues and ways to strengthen bilateral relations.

Participating in the talks on the Egyptian side were: 'Umran ash-Shafi'i, assistant foreign minister ambassador; Nihad al-'Asqalani, director of the Foreign Ministry's Western Europe Department; and Ambassador 'Ali Mahir, director of Dr Ghali's office. Participating on the Cypriot side were the members of the delegation accompanying Iakovou.

Following the talks, the Cypriot foreign minister said the decision on the restoration of diplomatic relations between Egypt and Cyprus at the ambassadorial level reflects genuinely good relations between the two countries. He said the Egyptian and Cypriot ambassadors will be appointed soon.

Ambassador 'Umran ash-Shafi'i explained that during the talks the Egyptian and Cypriot sides exchanged views on the problems facing the Middle East and the Mediterranean region. He said Dr Butrus Ghali explained to the Cypriot side Egypt's view and concept of how the Palestinian and Lebanese issues should be treated in the coming phase in light of current international and local circumstances. Dr Ghali also explained the tense situation between Sudan and Libya and the present situation vis-a-vis Egyptian-Israeli relations. Dr Ghali also dealt with the Iraqi-Iranian war and Egypt's view of any future initiatives in this respect.

Ambassador Ash-Shafi'i said the Cypriot foreign ministe explained the developments in the frozen [as received] Cypriot issue and the efforts made by the UN secretary general [to mediate] between Cypriot President Spiros Kiprianou and Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktas. Ash-Shafi'i said the Cypriot foreign minister made an appraisal of these contacts and spoke about European security, confidence building, and disarmament in light of the European security conference in Stockholm.

The Cypriot foreign minister also explained Cyprus' view of the preparatory conference of the nonaligned foreign ministers conference recently held in Malta.

Ghali Comments on Anniversary of Israeli Treaty
NC030545 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2305 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Cairo, 2 Apr (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, has affirmed that 5 years after the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty, peace seems more out of reach and more difficult to achieve than when the treaty was signed.

He said Israel is alone to blame for this because its behavior, policy, practices, expansionist designs, continued settlement policy, and invasion of Lebanon are considered a flagrant violation of the obligation it signed in the peace framework; they also represent a great error that has undermined the very roots of the spirit of peace.

In a statement to the newspaper *AL-AKHBAR* on the fifth anniversary of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty — which will be published in the paper's Tuesday edition — Ghali said this is the meaning which Egypt has understood and which explains its cautious stands toward the normalization process with Israel.

Dr Ghali explained that Israel's behavior in the autonomy talks confirmed all of Israel's negative stands. The repeated Israeli rejection of all international and Arab efforts and initiatives to expand participation in the peace-building process indicates the lack of a real desire by Israel for any activation of the situation that might lead to a real peace embracing the other parties.

In his statement, Dr Ghali reaffirmed Egypt's firm commitment to its obligations under the treaty and the agreements signed with Israel. He said Israel unfairly accuses Egypt of what it, not Egypt, should be accused of. This is because Israel has violated several of its commitments to Egypt. Moreover, Israel's attitude toward the Dayr as-Sultan [convent in Jerusalem] issue indicates its intransigence and its refusal to take any initiative to prove its goodwill.

Dr Ghali added that Israel's practices, including its decision to annex Arab Jerusalem and the Golan, its expansion of the settlement policy, its attack on the Iraqi nuclear reactor, and its invasion of Lebanon, prove that it is not prepared to view peace as a strategic option in relations with its neighbors.

Dr Ghali noted that Israel's behavior in the autonomy talks confirmed all of its previous negative stands, which it adopted while applying its concept of and its means for achieving comprehensive peace. Israel adhered to stands that it knew very well we had rejected in advance.

Dr Ghali said Israel was not only dissatisfied with all these practices and policies, which constitute a direct violation of the framework for comprehensive peace signed at Camp David, but it also changed the existing geographic, demographic, and economic conditions in the West Bank and Gaza Strip in order to impose a fait accompli.

Dr Ghali said the situation in the occupied territories continues to deteriorate while Israel ignores the human rights of the civilian population for the sake of implementing its annexation policy and building settlements. The daily suffering of the occupied territories' population is being increased as a result of the Israeli measures, which touch on all aspects of life, including personal freedom, freedom of movement, and freedom of speech.

Dr Ghali pointed out that the holy places are being violated by the Israeli authorities in a manner not commensurate with what they deserve.

In his interview with *AL-AKHBA* , Dr Butrus Ghali dealt with Israel's violations of its commitments to Egypt. He said the MFO recorded 62 Israeli violations in 1982 and 32 violations in 1983. Israeli vessels repeatedly entered Egyptian territorial waters in the Gulf of 'Aqaba without prior permission from 16 November to 31 December 1983. They did so 127 times.

Dr Ghali added that Israel has not implemented the 25 April agreement to solve border problems. It insists on keeping the right to apply Israeli law and maintain order, whether by completing negotiations to lay down the arrangements applied in those areas or by beginning negotiations on procedural arrangements aimed at solving the problem; that is, negotiations to set the conditions for conciliation and arbitration.

Dr Ghali said no one can deny the negative effect that this huge number of Israeli violations of what had been agreed upon at Camp David, in the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty, and in the 25 April 1982 agreement, has had on Egyptian public opinion's perception of Israel's stand toward peace and its understanding of it.
He added that despite this, Egypt has continued and continues to be committed to the spirit and letter of the peace treaty and the other agreements concluded with Israel. Egypt is looking to Israel's complete fulfillment of all the articles of these agreements.

Dr Ghali called on Israel to realize that the peace option is not only a legal commitment but is a strategic choice that must govern the overall relations and behavior of anyone who declares adherence to a peace policy. The desired peace is the one that stems from a long-term objective conviction. No one should be allowed to doubt this basis.

'Ali Interviewed on Role in Ending Gulf War

NC021507 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1445 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Paris, 2 Apr (MENA) — Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has emphasized that Egypt's move to end the Gulf war is regarded as one of the most prominent salients of Egyptian diplomatic action during the current phase. He said Egypt will continue its efforts in this direction and on all levels.

In an interview to be published in *KUL AL-'ARAB* magazine on Wednesday, Kamal Hasan 'Ali pointed out that many efforts and contacts are currently being made and will be made in the future to end the Iraqi-Iranian war, which has no justification.

In his interview, Kamal Hasan 'Ali reaffirmed Egypt's appreciation for Iraq's constructive stand to end the war and its response to all international efforts and endeavors designed to achieve a peaceful solution to it. He said this Iraqi position deserves to be supported and buttressed.

The deputy prime minister and foreign minister went on to say: Out of its belief in this, Egypt has absolutely supported Iraq in defending itself and in its readiness to end the fighting, and to achieve a peaceful settlement through negotiations.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali went on to say in his interview that Egypt has had and continues to have a role in the Nonaligned Movement and its conferences. Egypt strongly supported every effort geared to putting an end to the war. Egypt also worked and continues to work through its numerous international contacts and relentless diplomatic moves at the international organization and Security Council to end the war peacefully.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali pointed out that Egypt participated in formulating UN Security Council Resolution No 540, and has not been distant from the many efforts and mediations made, including the mediations by Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme and deceased Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali also discussed the results of his recent visit to Baghdad. He said: When we talk to the brothers in Iraq, we deal with all the subjects on the Arab and international arenas.

Regarding Egyptian-Arab relations, Kamal Hasan 'Ali emphasized that Egypt has never been distant from the causes of the Arabs and the Arab nation. He said Egypt's Arab contacts have never ceased. He expressed hope that this issue will be resolved in a serious manner.

Mubarak Receives Message From Cameroon's Biya

NC021402 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1330 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Cairo, 2 Apr (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak has received a message from Cameroonian President Paul Biya dealing with bilateral relations and the constitutional changes that have recently taken place in Cameroon.

President Mubarak received the message today when he met with Cameroonian Public Service Minister Youssoufa Daouda, who is currently visiting Cairo.

The meeting was attended by Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, and Hayatou Souaibou, Cameroonian ambassador to Cairo

AL-JUMHURIYAH, AL-AKHBAR on Jerusalem Attack

NC030743 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0525 GMT 3 Apr 84

[From the press review]

[Text] *AL-JUMHURIYAH* and *AL-AKHBAR* comment on the suicide attack carried out by a fedayeen group in the heart of

Jerusalem. *AL-JUMHURIYAH* expresses its belief that this attack has a considerable significance that goes beyond the results and the number of casualties. The paper adds: Whoever looks on this attack as merely an irresponsible act perpetrated by one fedayeen group or another is wrong. It should be put within the true political framework and within the framework of the current political phase in the Middle East, particularly where the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Palestinian issue are concerned.

Concluding its editorial, *AL-JUMHURIYAH* stresses that statements of denunciation and condemnation of yesterday's attack will be useless. The basic issue still exists, waiting for a solution. If the just solution is not achieved, then we can expect more despair and more extremism.

Writing on the same subject, *AL-AKHBAR* stresses in its editorial today that the suicide operation carried out by one of the Palestinian resistance groups in the heart of Jerusalem yesterday is new proof that none of the parties to the Middle East conflict can enjoy security and stability, no matter how militarily strong it may be, without tackling the essence of the area's conflict; namely, the Palestinian issue.

AL-AKHBAR adds: After the numerous military campaigns waged by Israel against the Palestinian resistance positions everywhere; and after the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, when the Palestinian fighters were forced to move to the furthest distance possible from Israel; the Jerusalem operation proves to the entire world — and to the Israels too — that violence breeds violence and that the generals often fail to secure security and stability.

AL-AKHBAR says that despite many reservations about resorting to violent methods and to attacking civilians, Israel bears the basic responsibility for the return of the Palestinian resistance to these methods, which it had given up for some time. The paper draws attention to the fact that Israel's intransigence and insistence on squandering all peace opportunities in the region have led to the disappearance of hope and the surge of despair among the Palestinians.

Concluding its editorial, *AL-AKHBAR* points out that despite all this, Israel refuses to recognize one fact. This fact is that its security cannot be achieved except through peace and through recognizing the Palestinian people's legitimate rights.

Defense Minister on Anticipated Iranian Offensive
JN031210 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1050 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Baghdad, Apr (INA) — Staff General 'Adnan Khayrallah, deputy commander in chief of the Iraqi Armed Forces and defense minister, has emphasized that any new Iranian adventure on our borders will be crushed. He said that the aggressor forces will be wiped out in a stronger manner than before and that they will reap only defeat and disgrace.

This came in reply to an INA question addressed to the defense minister on why the enemy offensive of 21-22 February this year was not resumed. He pointed out that the losses sustained by the Iranian enemy forces forced the Iranian Higher Defense Council to study in detail the setback which afflicted its forces.

He added that according to available information two basic groups emerged during the discussions held within the Iranian regime. The first group calls for the continuation of the military operations which the enemy forces began at the end of February. The second group calls for halting operations after they have been proven unsuccessful. It also calls for discussing the reasons of failure, for giving sufficient time for retraining and reorganization, and for reconsidering the plan in terms of objectives, approaches, trends, capability, and the role of the Army and the Khomeyni guards in the military operations.

He stressed that the logic of the second group has outweighed that of the first group. This second group, he added, is seeking to get additional time by submitting the idea of a possible postponement of the offensive until after the elections of the so-called Consultative Council under the pretext of devoting time for the elections.

He added that some, inside the enemy's Defense Council and other bodies are indirectly suggesting that it is possible to stop the adventure after it has been proven to be futile. However, he said: Whatever the case may be, we are prepared to confront any enemy adventure either by attacking the secondary directions in the sectors of some Army Corps or attacking the main directions of the concerned Army Corps. The enemy will be wiped out, God willing, he concluded.

Military Spokesman on New Iranian Offensive
JN022059 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 2045 GMT 2 Apr 84

[From the "Panorama" program]

[Text] In Baghdad, an Iraqi military spokesman said this evening that Iran is currently massing three-fourths of its army on the borders with Iraq in preparation for launching a new, wide-scale offensive against Basra.

The spokesman said that if this offensive takes place, it will be the end of the war for Iran. He said the Iraqi Army is ready to use new methods to crush the Iranian forces and inflict the heaviest losses on them.

Armed Forces Issues Communique No 1,423 - 2 April
JN021628 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1605 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Communique No 1,423 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 2 April]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our valiant Armed Forces continued their daring activities in the operations sectors against the forces of the aggressor Iranian regime. The results yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Our daring fighter aircraft today attacked enemy positions and units opposite our forward units' positions in the eastern Basra operations sector, scoring very effective hits. All of our fighter aircraft returned safely to base, praise be to God. Our fighter aircraft carried out 114 combat missions today.

2. One of our forward units used all types of weapons to pound enemy positions and troop concentrations opposite its positions in the eastern Basra sector of operations, killing three, wounding others, and destroying three vehicles, one infantry position, and two hardware stockpiles.

3. One of our forward units used all types of weapons to pound enemy positions and troop concentrations in the eastern Tigris operations sector, destroying one enemy boat carrying personnel, four infantry positions, and seven weapons emplacments.

4. Two were killed and one infantry position was destroyed in the central sector of the battlefield.

5. One medium caliber machine gun was destroyed and its crew were killed in the northern sector of the battlefield.

6. The criminal Khomeyniites shelled Basra, Khanaqin, Mandali and their suburbs with heavy artillery yesterday evening and today. As a result of the enemy shelling, 2 civilians were martyred, 10 others were wounded, and 6 houses and 4 civilian cars were damaged in Basra and its suburbs; 2 houses were destroyed, and 5 others were damaged in Khanaqin; and several civilian installations were damaged in Mandali.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 2 April 1984.

Culture Minister Interviewed by Jordan Paper
JN020830 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 2 Apr 84 p 1,3

[By Lamis K. Andoni - *JORDAN TIMES* staff reporter]

[Text] Amman — Iraq is ready to repulse any future Iranian offensive and the Iraqis will fight until the Tehran regime agrees to end the 42-month-old Gulf war through peaceful means, according to a senior Iraqi minister.

In an interview with the *JORDAN TIMES* earlier this week in Baghdad, Iraqi Culture and Information Minister Latif Nusayyif Jasim said: "Iraq is ready to repel any future Iranian offensive and to fight back until Iran becomes convinced that it

is waging a costly war and agrees to end the conflict through peaceful means."

Mr. Jasim pointed out that an expected Iranian offensive did not materialise in the third week of March, but Iraq believes that Iran has not abandoned its plans." Iran is massing its troops on the borders and preparing for a new offensive," he said.

The Iraqi minister did not give any figure on the number of Iranian soldiers involved in the expected offensive. Western reports say that Iran has mobilised close to half a million soldiers on the border.

"The recent victorious Iraqi air raids against Iranian troop concentrations were a major factor behind Tehran's decision to postpone the offensive," Mr. Jasim said. "However," he added, "this might not stop Iran from embarking on a new military adventure."

"But Iraq is ready for them (the Iranians)," the minister declared. "Iraq has a strong defence capability."

There are several "positive" indications on the international, Islamic and Arab arenas in favour of Iraq and the cause of peace in the Gulf, according to Mr. Jasim. "But these signals are not enough to bring about an end to the war," he asserted.

The war between Iran and Iraq, Mr. Jasim said, is "a conflict of two wills," while "peace is an option that both sides should choose."

"Since Iran is refusing the option of peace, Iraq has to depend on itself and its own capabilities to achieve its goal of ending the war," he said.

The minister explained that Iraq is working towards forcing Iran to take "a wise decision to negotiate a peaceful end to the war," Iraq intends to inflict a heavy military defeat on Iran and to support internal Iranian opposition to the war, so that Tehran realises that it would be wiser to end the conflict, the minister said.

According to reports from Iran, there is a strong movement inside the country against continuing the war. Not a single family remains unaffected by the war and the psychological and economic pressures the war has brought upon the Iranians are beginning to show, according to the reports.

Iraq maintains good relations with "all sectors of the internal Iranian opposition," Mr. Jasim said. There is a "gentlemen's agreement" between Iraq and the Iranian opposition Mujahedin-e Khalq leader, Mas'ud Rajavi, who lives in self-exile in Paris, he said.

Mr. Jasim refused to elaborate on Iraq's understanding with Mr. Rajavi, other than saying that "it is based on the interest of both sides to put an end to the war."

Iraq has no pre-conditions to end the war, Mr. Jasim said. However, he said, Iraq would like to restore peace in the Gulf on the basis of five points. He cited them as:

—The formation of an international arbitration committee entrusted with the task of determining which side started the war and which is responsible for its continuation.

—A return by both sides to the original borders which existed before the outbreak of the war.

—A pledge by both sides to respect each others borders.

—An undertaking from both sides not to intervene in the internal affairs of each other and to respect the ideological system of each other; and

—A firm commitment from both sides to adhere to all bilateral agreements except for the 1975 Algiers agreement which was declared null and void by both sides at the outset of the war in September 1980.

The Iraqi minister also accused the United States of working towards the continuation of the war, and praised the Soviet Union's stand towards the conflict.

U.S. claims that Iraq used chemical weapons on Iranian soldiers are "American attempts to whitewash the crimes it, the U.S., has committed and is still committing against the people of the world," Mr. Jasim said:

"The U.S. has no right whatsoever to talk about moral or human rights issues while it is deeply entrenched in crimes against people," he said. By supporting Iranian charges of Iraqi chemical attacks in the war, the U.S. "is trying to prove that it is not the enemy of Iran," he said.

"By prolonging the war, the U.S. aims to exhaust Iran economically and militarily in order to force Tehran to Washington's lap," Mr. Jasim asserted. "Once Tehran approaches Washington, the U.S. would undertake to rebuild Iran and convert it into a U.S. ally in the region," Mr. Jasim said. "This would be in consistency with American interests in the area," he added.

Mr. Jasim described the Soviet stand towards Iraq as "unequivocal," and said Moscow shares and supports the Iraqi desire for peace in the Gulf.

Papers View UK Bias Toward Iran, Against Arabs

JN310941 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0745 GMT 31 Mar 84

[Text] Baghdad, 31 Mar (INA) — *AL-JUMHURIYAH* says that the United Kingdom's sympathetic stand toward the Iranian regime and its opening of secret channels to supply it with weapons, military hardware, and spare parts is a continuation of the British wager that the Iranian regime is an agent which can be trusted to protect colonialist interests in the eastern region of the Arab homeland.

In its editorial today, *AL-JUMHURIYAH* recalls the UK's role in 1972 which paved the way for the former shah to occupy the three Arab islands of Abu Musa and the Greater and Lesser

Tunbs, stressing that it was the same role as the one the United Kingdom played when it handed Palestine over to Zionism.

AL-JUMHURIYAH adds that British influence in the region can never return through back doors, stressing that our people are waiting for any foreign attempt to harm our sovereignty over our land and water.

ATH-THWARAH says that terrorist actions against Arab citizens in the United Kingdom are taking place almost daily.

In its editorial, *ATH-THAWRAH* emphasizes the United Kingdom's collusion with the terrorist organizations which have chosen the United Kingdom and other countries as their refuge.

The paper adds that the Thatcher government knows this; it prefers its own interests, and lets principles and laws go to hell.

For its part, *AL-'IRAQ* says that the British campaign against Iraq is to harm the gains and victories Iraq has scored.

In its editorial, the paper says that this campaign is an official UK reaffirmation that it is biased toward Iran.

AL-'IRAQ says that the increasing Anglo-American military presence in the Arabian Sea and the Indian Ocean encourages the Iranian aggressors to continue the war and blackmail the world at large by threatening to close the Hormuz Strait.

AL-'IRAQ concludes by saying that the United Kingdom is assuming the role of guide to the convoy in view of its ancient ties in the region and its well-known role in the events that brought Khomeyni to power, as has been the case in other areas.

ATH-THAWRAH on British Stands

JN020746 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0600 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Baghdad, 2 Apr (INA) — The newspaper *ATH-THAWRAH* has said that Britain, just like the United States and the Zionist entity, is trying to obstruct the Arabs' march toward complete liberation, pan-Arab unity, and progress in all fields.

In a commentary today, the paper adds: Britain's stands toward the Arabs are known not through abstract ideas but through suffering and bitter, bloody experience with British colonialism and its past and present partners.

Britain, like other enemies, began to feel the danger resulting from the failure of the Iranian monster, which is weakened by wounds and fractures, to jump over the strong, fiery, and steel Iraqi fence, particularly after the recent Iranian defeats east of Basra and Tigris.

It says that the British campaign against Iraq in an attempt to rescue the Iranian regime that is staggering at the front of the hostile war against Iraq has been overtaken by time, and history will not be repeated. It stresses that the abortive British campaign cannot restore life to the Tehran rulers.

Concluding, the paper calls on the British Government and its partners to give up this game immediately because the time is gone when Britain can employ dwarfs and invaders to harm Iraq.

Amman Radio Reports on 2 April Jerusalem Attack
JN021732 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Occupied Jerusalem — Israeli Interior Minister Yosef Burg has said that traffic measures on the Lebanese border may be reconsidered. He added that the resistance men who carried out the attack in the center of Jerusalem today came from Lebanon. There are contradictory reports on the number of Israelis who were killed or injured in the attack. Israeli eyewitnesses said tens of bodies were scattered on the sidewalks and in the streets. The official Israeli spokesman said that 48 people were injured in the attack. Three men carried out a suicidal operation in occupied Jerusalem today using machine guns and hand grenades. The attack caused many Israeli casualties. The correct information on the number of the killed and injured Israelis is not yet available because of the military control the Israeli authorities have imposed on information related to the fedayeen operation.

Queen Elizabeth II Sends Cable to King Husayn
JN302018 Amman Television Service in English 2000 GMT 30 Mar 84

[Text] As Queen Elizabeth II left Jordan today, she sent the following cable to his majesty the king:

As we leave Jordan after a most enjoyable first visit, I send to Your Majesty and Queen Nur the warmest thanks of Prince Philip and myself for all your kindness and hospitality during the past few days.

We have been very touched by the care and trouble taken to make us feel welcome throughout Jordan. Everything we have seen has been most impressive and we take away the happiest memories of your people and your country.

I hope that our visit will have served to strengthen the longstanding friendship between Jordan and Britain, and I send my sincere good wishes to Your Majesty and to the government and people of Jordan for a happy and prosperous future.

JORDAN TIMES Interview With Layla Sharaf
JN011053 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 1 Apr 84 p 1

[Interview conducted by 'Afifah A. Kaluti, *JORDAN TIMES* staff reporter with Layla Sharaf, information minister in Amman on Saturday, 31 March]

[Text] Amman — Britain's Queen Elizabeth's recently concluded state visit to Jordan was a "very fruitful" and "positive" one and its success refuted all arguments about the "insecurity" of the queen in Jordan, Information Minister Layla Sharaf said Saturday.

In an interview with the *JORDAN TIMES*, Mrs Sharaf said the British monarch's visit was aimed at promoting good relations that exist between the United Kingdom and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. "We have historical ties with Britain which have developed into a positive and friendly relationship. The visit was a very good step on the way to strengthen our future dealings and relationship," she said.

The queen's visit, Mrs Sharaf said, made international attention focus on Jordan and belied the propaganda of "insecurity" in Jordan. "It (the visit) has put in focus the security, the stability, and the life in Jordan in a positive light," Mrs Sharaf said.

Referring to a bomb explosion at the International Hotel car park a day before the queen's arrival in Jordan, Mrs Sharaf said that it was meant for the attention of the British and foreign journalists who were covering the queen's visit. The explosion was meant to convey to the journalists that Jordan is an "insecure" country not safe enough for the queen's visit, Mrs Sharaf said.

Most of the journalists were staying at the Intercontinential Hotel, Mrs Sharaf pointed out .

"It was a futile attempt at discouraging the visit of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth. It was only a sound bomb and not destructive.We were certain that everything would proceed well, as in the past, during the visits of various heads of state."

Asked what the queen's reaction was to the explosion, Mrs Sharaf said that the British head of state did not mention anything about it and she did not seem "to be aware of any security problems, and she was relaxed and happy."

Mrs Sharaf said that the propaganda campaign built up against the queen's visit to Jordan started in Israel with the British correspondent of the *TIMES* writing the first item of news regarding the "insecurity" of Jordan. "It was obvious that it was a campaign to prevent her visit, but we are glad that we were able to show them that the stability and security of Jordan are still at a very high standard, much higher than those in many European capitals."

"It is a mad world and threats do occur sometimes, but if one has the control over the security matters in the country, one can control and avoid them. That is what has been done all through Jordan," the information minister added.

On controversial reports by some of the British journalists covering the queen's visit, Mrs Sharaf said: "One cannot avoid such kinds of reports, but one should not give them overexaggerated attention."

"We cannot expect everyone to be friendly and positive. There are many people that are upset for their own reasons and they report negatively on the visit."

It was brought to Mrs Sharaf's attention that some of the British journalists had belittled the queen's visit to the Dead Sea. One newspaper had talked about the queen having to eat out of paper plates while sitting on plastic seats. Mrs Sharaf remarked: "We had never any paper plates or plastic seats for any head of state, let alone Queen Elizabeth.

"The lunch the royal couple had in the Dead Sea was sort of a picnic on the shores of the Dead Sea - on the sand and on the

stones and inside a tent. It was not an official banquet." She added that the lunch could not have been planned like a state banquet but "the food was definitely not served on paper plates."

"It would have looked to her majesty as well as to everyone else as ostentatious, blase nouveau riche if we had done anything else," Mrs Sharaf said.

She added that the light table setting fit for picnics was arranged and the plates were not of paper, and that "they were good china of a kind that is suitable for picnics in character as well as in quality."

Going back to the results of the visit, Mrs Sharaf said that it has shed new light on the Palestinian issue from the human point of view "although politics were not discussed, as they were not supposed to have been."

Mrs Sharaf pointed out that Mr Richard Luce, the British state minister for the Middle East, who accompanied the queen during her visit, "has carried with him many positive elements of the visit,along with new information that he was probably exposed to during the visit."

"We think that the visit contributed positively to our mutual relations and to the Palestinian question as well," Mrs Sharaf said.

Regarding the queen's role in promoting the Arab cause, Mrs Sharaf said, "Queen Elizabeth has weight in her country. Athough she cannot interfere in the policy-making process, her opinions are always taken into consideration and are respected and reviewed."

Asked if there would be a new British initiative towards the Palestinian cause, Mrs Sharaf said: "I think there is a new orientation in European politics to understand the Palestinian problem better and the human dimensions that are involved in it, as well as the problems of self-determination andof human rights, and the problem of the people seeking to have their homeland, a passport and an existence as every other people in the world."

This orientation, she added, has been witnessed in recent declarations by European foreign ministers in Brussels. They reiterated principles that were mentioned in UN Security Council Resolution 242 about the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force and the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, as well as their right to be involved in any solution of their question.

"We think that Europe can play a very positive role, and that Britain can be one of the leaders in playing this role," Mrs Sharaf said.

Replying to a question as to whether Jordan is seeking arms from Britain, Mrs Sharaf said Jordan would seek arms for its defence not only from Britain, but also from any other country, as reiterated by His Majesty King Husayn in a press conference at Aqaba immediately after the queen's departure on Friday. Replying to another question, Mrs Sharaf said: "We are not looking to totally abandon U.S. military or diplomatic support. The king's interviews and declarations in the past few weeks were only an explanation of the true nature of our problem directed at the American public, the U.S. Congress, and theadministration.

Government Receives $15 Million From UAE

JN011110 Amman SAWT ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 1 Apr 84 p 1

[Text] Amman —The Jordanian Government has received $15 million from the Government of the UAE as part of the first installment of Arab aid for 1983 in accordance with the 1978 Baghdad summit resolutions.

SAWT ASH-SHA'B on U.S. Arms Sales, Arab Policy

JN310917 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 31 Mar 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "We Have Many Options," *SAWT ASH-SHA'B* says: At the news conference yesterday, His Majesty King Husayn answered a reporter's question on the possibility of Jordan buying British weapons. He said that the subject was not discussed in the Jordanian-British talks. His majesty added that we have many options on this subject.

Jordan has good and strong relations with most countries in the world. On the bases of these relations, Jordan can make all kinds of ties with these countries, including purchases ofweapons it needs. Jordan has a good international reputation. It is a moderate, developing country which has worked and is still working to achieve just and lasting peace in this region.

No international organization has ever branded Jordan with anything such as racism, disregard of human rights, or any form of discrimination. Therefore, there is no reason for any country not to sell arms to it.

SAWT ASH-SHA'B says: Jordan has primarily been a victim of aggression. When it tries to buy the arms it needs, it is only trying to strengthen its defense potential in order to protect its people and territory and to prevent aggression from reaching other Arab territories and countries. The surprising fact about this is the U.S. move to suspend U.S. arms sales to Jordan. This forces Jordan to reassess the policy of relying on the United States as a traditional source from which Jordan buys its arms. The Zionist influence in the U.S. Congress may determine U.S. policy toward the Arabs in this matter, but does Zionist influence determine the policy of the Arabs in this matter?

As a nation, we possess financial capabilities that are envied by many nations. However, these nations do not envy our political or military position in the face of the invaders and their allies. It is only shortsightedness which leads some of us to believe that those nations can be secure when a fraternal country like Jordan is threatened.

The hue and cry that has been raised on the subject of arms that Jordan wanted to purchase from the United States would not have been raised, and sensitive defensive matters would not have

been placed under spotlights had there been a unified Arab policy prepared to face the aggression or had there been some form of Arab defense integration on the basis of which different resources would be transferred to the required positions. Thus, gaps in the defensive Arab structure would be filled; the aggression surrounded; an impregnable barrier built; and aggression against any Arab country would be an aggression against all Arab countries, the consequences of which the aggressors would not be able to bear, if they were able to carry out the aggression in the first place.

SAWT ASH-SHA'B concludes: Jordan, which has been able to build all of this power and progress in all fields, will overcome the difficulties, no matter what they are, and will get what its needs. We have many options.

AR-RA'Y Comments on Arab League Council Meetings

JN011000 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 1 Apr 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "A Move To Face the Challenges," *AR-RA'Y* in its editorial today says: At a time when leaders of a number of fraternal Arab countries have received letters from His Majesty King Husayn concerning the current Arab situation and the means to establish Arab bases to face the dangers threatening the nation and its independent identity, Arab foreign ministers have called for a speedy convening of an Arab summit and for an emergency meeting of the Arab League Council on 15 May to set the date and agenda for the proposed summit.

AR-RA'Y adds: It is clear that King Husayn's letters are a move on the pan-Arab level to face the dangers that threaten both the eastern and western fronts of the Arab nation, to let pan-Arabism take precedence over all secondary issues, and to deal with world powers in ways to guarantee the interests of the nation, especially since the time factor plays an important part in the course of events in the region. Arabs cannot ignore this important factor.

Needless to say, while U.S. credibility has been exposed for what it is and its forgery has been revealed to everyone, and while the countries of the EEC are trying to assume a firmer position toward Israel and a clearer position toward the Palestinian question as was indicated in the statement of the European Council, there is need for an intensive and unified Arab effort toward a just solution and for urging European countries to develop their positions into strong action in the international arenas.

In light of this urgent need and the dangers that threaten the nation, the speedy convening of an Arab summit is important, provided it is preceded by steps that will enable the summit to assume its responsibilities in the expected manner.

AR-RA'Y concludes: In view of all this, Arab leaders are urged now more than at any time before to begin a phase of joint pan-Arab action that will bring the nation up to the level enabling it to face challenges and assume a serious role in building its future and regaining its rights.

Moves in Arab Arena Aimed at Restoring Solidarity

JN020740 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 1 Apr 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Within the framework of Jordan's moves to activate the Arab cause and pave the way for restoring Arab solidarity, His Majesty King Husayn's envoys yesterday conveyed messages to a number of Arab leaders in the Arab homeland.

Jordan's move within the Arab family comes at a time when the current circumstances in our Arab world make it incumbent on the Arabs to convene an Arab summit conference as soon as possible after postponing it for a long time.

The summit should be convened in light of the challenges and dangers that are threatening the Arab world.

Jordan's move also comes at a time when the 81st session of the Arab League Council urged an emergency meeting of the Arab League Council on the foreign ministers' level on 15 May in order to set the date of the summit and its agenda.

Jordan's move at this stage stresses a number of facts, foremost being that Jordan comes directly after the Palestinian people in bearing the responsibilities of the Palestine question, confronting Israel's expansionist aggression, and coexisting with this negative situation which, through the development of the Palestine question, has involved Jordan for four decades.

Hence, Jordan's move is based on pan-Arab convictions that cannot be relinquished or ignored at a time when our nation is in dire need of building bases of solidarity and defining its positions toward current issues and existing challenges in the Arab homeland.

Because of the dangers involved, the situation in the region can no longer tolerate any freezing or postponing, particularly because it provides Israel with the time necessary to entrench its occupation of the Arab territories and enables it to impose the policy of the fait accompli.

The Arab summit, which has been adjourned since last year, can no longer tolerate further postponement because of the seriousness of the current circumstance and the importance of the issues that should be settled by the Arab leaders before it is too late. Hence, Jordan's move in the Arab arena comes to support the Arab League Council efforts and is a prelude to any effort that the Arab leaders might exert in order to crystallize an Arab position dealing with current challenges and existing dangers in the Arab world. We hope that all good efforts will overcome negative elements that threaten Arab relations so that the anticipated summit can be convened as soon as possible and the Arab leaders can bear their responsibilities for the challenges and dangers that are surrounding the Arab world.

AR-RA'Y Comments

JN020923 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 2 Apr 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Road to Salvation," *AR-RA'Y* says: His Majesty King Husayn's letters to a number of Arab leaders express Jordan's continued concern for the necessity of dialogue and coordination. More important is Jordan's desire for joint Arab action. King Husayn has always initiated moves whenever this nation has faced an escalation of aggression against it and whenever the plots hostile to the nation's existence, dignity, and territory are revitalized. A careful look at the Arab state of affairs, and at events concerning many issues, has become a matter of urgency.

U.S.-Arab relations are one of these issues. U.S.- Israeli relations is another. The Zionist enemy's settlement policy is a third, and the conspiracy that is aimed against the Arabism of Jerusalem is a fourth issue which is serious and important. The Arab position cannot remain as it is while our Arab nation is facing all these issues. The absence of a serious Arab move to confirm our nation's ability to deal responsibly and bravely with its causes is also unacceptable.

AR-RA'Y adds: We have always stressed that this stage was a dangerous one and that duty urges all to rise and assume their national and pan-Arab responsibility. The causes of this nation are being used by its enemies as political investment cards, dialogue, and action. The most dangerous conspiratorial plots have been peddled because of our disunity, disintegration, and marginal differences. It is time to put an end to this disunity and to face the international community with its responsibilities toward peace, stability, and justice.

Our nation, which has always proven to be capable of effective moves at the right moment or even the last moment, is now hoping that these moves will begin even on a minimum level. The occupied territories are Arab territories and occupied Jerusalem is the capital of the Arabs and the Muslims.

Land and nation, we are greater and bigger than becoming a political card in a conflict over presidency, a conflict over zones of influence, or a conflict over interests.

All this depends on the extent of our coordination, dialogue, and joint Arab action which will stop others in their tracks and give the nation a chance to progress and rise with dignity.

Joint Arab Stand Urged

JN021924 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Observers believe that current inter-Arab relations are an exception to the rule that they should be following. The fact that relations between brothers remain in this state when challenges and dangers surrounding Arabs everywhere are escalating causes regret and pain. The Jordanian leadership's move is aimed at straightening out the current Arab situation and at crystallizing a joint Arab position by holding an Arab meeting as soon as possible in order to confront the challenges the Arab nation is facing. This move asserts Jordan's commitment to its nation and its causes. Jordan's objectives in making this move are aimed at achieving a joint Arab agreement on all Arab causes and at rearranging these causes in accordance with their rank of priority in the Arab arena.

The developments in the Middle East crisis and the Palestine cause, which is the crux of the crisis, and the assumptions on which the ideas for a solution were based have upset the equations that have existed since 1967 as an inevitable result of U.S. bias toward the expansionist Israeli aggression. Consequently, the Arab leaders must reassess the current situation in the region in order to move the cause to a larger circle and to a more comprehensive participation in the international arena.

We say this because we have always refused to tackle the Arab cause separately. We have rejected unilateral international impostion of fabricated solutions that only satisfy Israel's aggressive and expansionist ambitions in the Arab world. The Jordanian move — which contains various Arab stands on the region's crisis, centering on achieving a just and comprehensive solution to the Palestine cause as well as peace in the region based on UN principles and resolutions — fulfills Arab ambitions of preparing a joint stand that can deal with the developments of the current situation and confront the challenges and dangers. The unified Arab stand on these issues is the one which will bring the just solutions closer, and the one which will safeguard Arab rights. The Jordanian move aims at revitalizing this stand beofre it is too late.

Dailies on Jerusalem Fedayeen Operation

JN030820 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 3 Apr 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "A Message From Jerusalem," *AD-DUSTUR* says: The great and daring fedayeen operation that took place in occupied Jerusalem yesterday, and the armed confrontation during this operation, is the first of its kind in the holy city since its occupation 17 years ago. This operation is a serious and brief message from the people in the occupied territory to those it may concern inside and outside the Israeli entity. Through this message, this people explained their sufferings, persecution, and despair regarding policies whichignore their rights, aspirations, and legitimate national objectives. If it is easy for Israel and its propaganda machine to describe all the resistance operations inside occupied Palestine and southern Lebanon as terrorist actions, then we believe that the whole world must understand that this operation is a direct and inevitable result of Israel's daily and continuous repressive and terrorist policies in the occupied Arab territories. It is aninevitable and expected reply in light of all actions of Judaization, annexation, confiscation, and aggression against holy places and properties — aggressions that are supported by the highest official Israeli authorities.

AD-DUSTUR adds: We do not believe that this violent message sent by some fedayeen yesterday from the heart of occupied Jerusalem is addressed only to the Zionist occupiers. It is also addressed to Israel's U.S. supporter that supports its expansionist and hostile policies. This U.S. supporter has openly announced its hostility and disdain for national Palestinian rights. This support has encouraged some congressmen to call for moving the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to occupied Jerusalem, ignoring all Arab and Islamic feelings toward this holy city. The Jerusalem operation, which will be recorded in the history of the Palestinian people's struggle against their occupiers as a daring operation and a resolute action to challenge the enemy and to directly confront it, will not be the last fedayeen operation if Israel continues its current policies and if the United States in particular continues to provide the aggression with all means of force and arrogance in accordance with its policy that ignores the Palestinian people's rights and their legitimate national demands.

AD-DUSTUR concludes: Undoubtedly, this operation, which has restored esteem to the fedayeen action and removed many doubts that might have loomed in the minds of the masses in the wake of dissidence and internecine fighting, will contribute toward reorganizing the Palestinian institution on the basis that this operation is a sign for everyone of the real course that must be adopted and a reminder that the national priorities and interests during this stage must be rearranged.

AR-RA'Y says: Yesterday's operation has once again confirmed that the Zionist enemy's calls for peace can only be achieved on a just basis based on complete withdrawal on the one hand and the restoration of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights on the other. The Jerusalem operation has clearly proved that force can never conquer right and supremacy cannot defeat will. Attacking the enemy in its own trench and in its most sensitive position is a daring action that proves the continuation of the Palestinian people's valiant resistance will inside and outside occupied Palestine.

AR-RA'Y concludes: We know that voices will be raised unjustly denouncing the so-called terrorist side of the operation. However, these voices will be falser and less sincere than all the Zionist claims. Those who are concerned over peoples' struggle for their rights must be fair regarding the injustice that this nation and the Palestinian people have been suffering for 36 years. These sides also must not forget the right of the stabbed body to resist the knives of the murderers and Nazists who took up murder, terrorism, and aggression as a profession through the support of many forces that have always sought to deprive right and justice of their human identity and provide them with an identity to suit their interests. The Palestinian people's struggle is a real struggle and not mere terrorism as viewed by the Zionist enemy and its allies who view other peoples' struggle, if not directed against them, as a just struggle. We can give innumerable examples for this.

More on Visit by Soviet C.C. Official Brutents

Denies Military Experts Present

NC021735 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Karen Brutents, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, has denied there are Soviet military experts in Lebanon. He considers the abrogation of the 17 May accord and withdrawal of the Multinational Force as a positive step.

Following his meeting with Foreign Minister Salim at the Lebanese Foreign Ministry in the presence of Soviet Ambassador Soldatov, Brutents said his country is ready to reach an understanding with the Lebanese Government over all the steps that would contribute toward achieving accord among the Lebanese, and at getting Israel out of the south. He emphasized his country's support for Lebanon's sovereignty and independence.

Opposition, CPSU Delegation Meet

NC021847 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] An expanded national meeting was held at 1700 today at the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] Headquarters between the national Beirut and PSP leaders and the CPSU delegation represented by Sergey Kozmin, deputy head of the delegation. The meeting was attended by representatives of the PSP leadership; the Lebanese Communist Party; the Communist Labor Organization; the Syrian Social National Party; the Independent National Lebanese Grouping; the Arab Socialist Union-the Nasirite Organization; the National Steadfastness League; and Deputies Najah Wakim and Zahir al-Khatib.

At the onset of the meeting, PSP Secretary General Fu'ad Salman welcomed the Soviet delegation. He gave a speech during which he reviewed the stages of the Lebanese national struggle, and the struggle of the Lebanese people who eradicated the Phalangist hegemony and 17 May accord. Moreover, he commended the Soviet role which supports the national forces, and referred to the effective and supportive Syrian role for the nationalists' struggle in Lebanon. Salman touched on the subject of the south and emphasized the need to continue the struggle until full Lebanese sovereignty is recovered.

Following Salman's address, the head of the Soviet delegation delivered a comprehensive address that contained the Soviet Union's affirmation of support for the nationalist Lebanese forces. The address was followed by a review of the various political developments and affairs.

After the meeting, the deputy head of the Soviet delegation made the following statement to the Voice of the Mountain correspondent:

This meeting was held in a good and friendly atmosphere. The meeting made evident the continued resolve of the representatives of the progressive and nationalist Lebanese forces to continue the struggle to achieve the just and legitimate aims of the Lebanese people. These aims are the liberation of south Lebanon, which remains under Israel occupation, which is supported by imperialism. He added: We are with you in this struggle. We had, have, and will always maintain this position of support for your just struggle. Our support is a principled one. I would like to say that the Soviet Union is taking the necessary measures for diplomatic and political moves in all international organizations, particularly the United Nations and Security Council.

Asked about the continued U.S.-Israeli conspiracy against Lebanon and the area, he said: The Lebanese people's struggle has been crowned by a major success in the abrogation of the 17 May accord and departure of the Multinational Force. I do not doubt, he added, that the forces hostile to you continue to lie in wait and search for those means that will enable them to attain their objectives. Such is the nature of imperialism.

UN's Urquhart Arrives, To Meet Al-Jumayyil

NC031338 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Brian Urquhart, assistant UN secretary general for Political Affairs, arrived in Beirut today at 1215. At 1300, Urquhart met with Ambassador Fu'ad at-Turk, secretary general of the Foreign Ministry. Ambassador Dr Khalil Makkawi, director of Political Affairs at the Foreign Ministry, and Ghazi Shidyaq, director of International Organizations Affairs at the Foreign Ministry, attended the meeting.

Urquhart is scheduled to visit Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan at 1630, and President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil at 1830.

Al-Wazzan Meets French Envoy, Makes Statement

NC021730 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan today at 1600 received at his residence French Ambassador to Lebanon Ferdinand Wibaux in the presence of Ambassador Khalil Makkawi, director of Political Affairs at the Foreign Ministry. Their discussions, which lasted for 1 hour, centered on the situation in Lebanon, particularly in southern Lebanon, in light of the arbitrary and suppressive measures being carried out by the Israeli occupation forces against the citizens in the south.

During the meeting, Prime Minister al-Wazzan stressed the need for exerting every possible effort to stop these Israeli practices and consequently end the Israeli occupation. In this respect, Prime Minister al-Wazzan emphasized the French role, particularly in the international sphere, and specifically at the UN Security Council.

After the meeting, the French ambassador's satisfaction was evident when he said: I will let the prime minister speak. Prime Minister al-Wazzan said: Our meeting today with the French ambassador was held within the same framework as our meetings with the U.S. and Soviet ambassadors. We are continuing our contacts with the ambassadors because we feel the situation in the south is serious, and also to discuss what action we must take,

both here in Lebanon and in international forums. I believe all of the ambassadors concerned are following with us the seriousness of the situation and doing everything in their power in this respect. He added: We expect all the contacts to crystallize soon, God willing.

Asked if he requested any particular stand from the French ambassador, Prime Minister al-Wazzan said: In fact, we are consulting with him on the best way to achieve the liberation of the south or, at least for the time being, to put an end to the Israeli practices.

Franjiyah, British Envoy Discuss Current Situation

NC021546 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Former President Sulayman Franjiyah this morning met with British Ambassador to Lebanon Henry David Miers in the presence of Deputy 'Abdallah ar-Rasi and Anwar 'Aridah. They discussed the current situation, Lebanese-British relations, and the role Britain can play to help Lebanon emerge from its ordeal.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan Responds to Critics

NC022045 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan has underlined his concern about democracy, parliamentary life, and the assumption of responsibility in the most delicate circumstances. The prime minister was replying to a statement made by Deputy Fu'ad Lahhud in which he said the reason for the prime minister's failure to attend the recent meeting of the [parliamentary] joint committees is known to [Chamber of Deputies] Speaker Kamil al-As'ad, in addition to the fact that he was asked to attend the meeting in his capacity as interior minister and not as prime minister.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan pointed out that he has not been assuming certain security responsibilities because what transpired in Geneva and later at the Lausanne conference occurred outside the governmental framework, and that likewise, the Security Committee has been holding meetings under President al-Jumayyil in accordance with a resolution adopted in Lausanne. He said because of this state of affairs, he has drawn the attention of all those concerned in the presidency and government to this fact. He has called for expediting the formation of a government that will end this abnormal situation.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan said: I have continued to assume responsibility in the present form, and retracted my resignation on the basis of a written letter addressed to me by his excellency the president because he was compelled to go to Lausanne at a time when the government's resignation had been accepted. I agreed to reassume my post for a short time in accordance with Article 61 of the Constitution in order to carry out my national duty and facilitate matters. Whatever responsibilities I am discharging, I am discharging from my house and not from the government palace. This is in (?confirmation) of the fact that I am continuing to discharge my duties on a temporary basis.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan added: I hurried to meet with President al-Jumayyil on Saturday, 31 March, when the Internal Security Forces took over the checkposts. That gave me an opportunity to visit the Presidential Palace and urge the president of the Republic to settle the government situation and the question of forming a new government immediately.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan said his stand of enabling President al-Jumayyil to deal with the government situation has the appreciation of all sincere spiritual and other leaders, especially those who asked me to [words indistinct] in the fateful circumstances through which the homeland is passing. Prime Minister al-Wazzan said: These sincere and good people are those who primarily concern me in addition to the homeland's interests; I am not concerned about anyone else.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan said: As for the rest of the criticisms, they are lies that harm those who made them more than they harm me. The corruption in the administration, the state of the Treasury, the state of neglect, and the situation of those employees who have resigned, as well as the Publications Censorship Law issued during the present government's tenure, are not problems that the present government caused. There is no truth in all the lies that have been utterred, which only lack blaming me for all the incidents the country has experienced during the past 9 years.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan expressed his regret that one stoops to such a level of cheap accusations when dealing with public affairs. He said: The people know who deserves to be made accountable. He concluded his statement by saying: It suffices me to say that history is the best judge.

PSP Radio on Problems Confronting Security Committee

Hamadah Raps Government Policy

NC021942 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Political circles are apprehensive about attempts by the Lebanese Front and government to undermine the Higher Political Security Committee, hamper its role in tackling basic questions, create difficulties for it, and exacerbate the situation on the axes. Although the contacts continued among all committee members throughout yesterday and today, these contacts did not lead to any positive result regarding the reopening of the airport and port, and the disengagement of forces on all axes.

Some political sources have commented on the atmosphere prevailing over the committee activities, and the progress it has thus far achieved by saying: If the committee does not succeed in stabilizing the cease-fire in a comprehensive manner, and if the disengagement of forces does not take place, a new catastrophe will befall the country.

Within this framework, former Minister Marwan Hamadah, in an exclusive interview with the Voice of the Mountain correspondent, said: The Progressive Socialist Party [PSP], through its representatives on the Higher Political Security Committee, has emphasized its eagerness to make it possible for the committee

to achieve specific measures that will end the fighting and confirm the desire to work at liberating the south. Hamadah added: If some of the committee's activities stumble, this will be due to the stands of those forces against change in Lebanon — the forces that worked at frustrating the Lausanne conference, and who are now trying to gain time by wagering that some specific changes will take place after the Israeli and U.S. elections scheduled to take place in the coming 6 months.

Hamadah did not hide the existence of obstacles obstructing the Security Committee. He emphasized that these obstacles result from the intentions of the government and parties supporting it to disregard the significance of the subject of the Army, and the disengagement of forces.

Regarding political reform, Hamadah said: If the Higher Political Security Committee succeeds in stabilizing the cease-fire and disengaging the forces, it would have paved the way for political discussions.

Regarding the latest Israeli measures in Iqlim al-Kharrub, Hamadah said: The PSP, which has participated with the Amal Movement and the sincere national forces in the abrogation of the 17 May accord, will not accept the application of the accord's provisions.

Hamadah holds the Lebanese Government responsible for the current situation in the south and on the coastal highway.

Lebanese Front Sees Failure

NC022056 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 2000 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] The Higher Security Political Committee, which commenced its meeting at 1900 tonight, and took a short recess for consultations, is still meeting at B'abda Palace. The committee is discussing a binding formula with regard to the cease-fire following the Lebanese Front's and its forces violations of every agreement. The committee is also discussing a basic issue, namely, the disengagement of forces.

Our correspondent has learned that the committee is discussing two papers tonight regarding the disengagement of forces. The first was presented by the Progressive Socialist Party and Amal Movement, and the other paper was presented by the Army representative.

Observers consider this session of great importance should the conferees arrive at a unified formula on the question under discussion despite the obstacles created by the Army Command and Lebanese Forces.

A Progressive Socialist Party source has emphasized that dividing the security question is impossible and that it is unacceptable to restrict the discussion to one area as opposed to the other. The question of the incomprehensive disengagement of forces as proposed by the regime and its groups aims at fluctuating the resolutions adopted, rendering them mere ink on paper in order to reject the political solutions proposed by Walid Junblatt and Nabih Birri. This view was expressed by George Sa'adah, Lebanese Front representative to the Higher Security Political Committee, by saying that the committee's meetings will fail because the security question has been linked to political issues.

Source on Front's Policies

NC030758 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0630 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] The developments in the Lebanese crisis continue to be the subject of discussion on various levels. From the security standpoint, observers have noted the attempts to stir up the security situation on the combat axes prior to the meetings of the Higher Political Security Committee. The observers saw in this an intentional attempt by the regime's supporters to undermine the decisions made by the committee, particularly those pertaining to the consolidation of the cease-fire, disengagement of forces, and reopening of the airport and port. This attempt aims to confirm the Lebanese Front's statement that there can be no solution to the Lebaense crisis except through partition.

Indeed, George Sa'adah, the Phalangist representative, has affirmed in a statement that the Higher Political Security Committee will fail because it has linked the security and political issues — as if the conflict which has assumed a military nature is not connected with the differences over political views.

In this regard, a political source told the Voice of the Mountain that the success of the Higher Political Security Committee in consolidating the cease-fire, disengaging the forces, and reopening the port and airport will pave the way to political talks on political reforms, which must ensure that there is no return to the whirlpool of fighting through an agreement on concrete reforms based on the unity of Lebanon — land, people, and institutions. There can be no solution outside this framework.

The source added: The attempts to partition security on Lebanese territory is a serious matter. Everyone knows Beirut's security is closely linked to the security of the mountain and vice versa. Why then the call for this separation? It is clear that it is designed to slacken efforts and gain time, because the Lebanese Front and all its institutions are continuing to wager on a solution that will come from outside the borders. In this, the Lebanese Front confirms its unwillingness to work for Lebanon's unity and demonstrates the difficulties that will face the national forces in their negotiations over political reforms.

The source affirmed that the Arab friends and forces of liberation and peace support us in our confrontation of the fascist scheme. They fully understand our struggle to unite Lebanon as a democratic and secular country, pervaded by justice and equality on the various levels. They also appreciate the justness and legitimacy of our confrontation of a fascist partitionist scheme linked to U.S. policy.

The source concluded: The political struggle will be no less severe than the military struggle.

Magazine Says Birri Target of Assassination
NC021436 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1425 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Paris, 2 Apr (MENA) — The Paris-based Arab-language magazine *KUL AL-'ARAB* reveals in its Wednesday edition that information received by French officials indicate that two persons belonging to a governmental department had arrived in Paris on a mission to assassinate Shi'ite Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri during his recent visit to Paris.

The magazine says that throughout his visit to France Birri had been under heavy guard.

Amal's Lawyers' Note to UN on Israeli Practices
NC311535 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 31 Mar 84

[Text] The Amal Movement's lawyers office has sent a note to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar regarding the escalation of the aggressive Zionist actions against the people and villages in southern Lebanon, which the office regards as a crime against international peace and security.

The note said the Zionist terrorist campaign will only increase the southerners' commitment to their land, defense of their border, and restoration of their sovereignty. The note warned that the people in the south will resort to force against Israel if it continues its oppressive practices against them. This is based on the UN Charter, which provides that a people forcibly prevented from exercising their right to self-determination must be regarded to be in a state of legitimate defense should they resort to force.

The note called for decisive measures which will: ensure an unconditional Israeli withdrawal, in accordance with UN Security Council Resolutions 508 and 509; lift the siege; reopen the roads; and release all detainees.

Many lawyers, men of law, university professors, and cultural and information media figures staged a sit-in at the UN Information Office in Beirut yesterday in response to the call of the Amal Movement's lawyers office. The participants handed the note to Lu'ay al-Jundi, the director of the UN Information Office in Beirut, who will convey it to UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar and to Brian Urquhart who is expected to visit Lebanon this coming Tuesday.

Franjiyah News Conference on Situation 3 Apr
NC031330 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 1130 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] At his weekly news conference this morning, [former] President Sulayman Franjiyah spoke of the various developments in the present Lebanese situation. He saluted the heroes of the Lebanese National Resistance who are daily inflicting enormous losses on the occupying enemy. He demanded that all Lebanese — officials and nonofficials alike — support this resistance. He also saluted the heroic strugglers who execute operations against the occupation forces in Jerusalem.

President Franjiyah also condemned the treacherous crime that has been perpetrated against four residents in the township of Ar-Rusayfah — a crime similarly perpetrated in Furn ash-Shubbak. He noted this crime aimed to deal a blow to the formula for brotherly coexistence in the north. He said: God willing, they will be unable to implement this design.

President Franjiyah wished the daily B'abda meetings between the president of the Republic and representatives of certain factions success in achieving a cease-fire.

With regard to the situation in the north, President Franjiyah said: At this time, in its present condition, and thanks to the cohesion of its sons, the north is a thorn in the side of the mongers of sectarianism. We will do our utmost in conjunction with [former] Prime Minister Karami and all the northern leaderships, to ensure that the north continues to be a thorn in the side of Lebanon's enemies and in that of the agents of Lebanon's enemies.

Al-Murabitun's Qulaylat Arrives in Libya 1 Apr
NC020903 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 0830 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] The radio and television in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah have reported that Brother Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September Revolution, last night met with Brother Ibrahim Qulaylat, leader of the Indpendent Nasirite Movement—Al-Murabitun and the delegation accompanying him. They discussed developments in Lebanon and their effect on the national and pan-Arab struggle.

It should be recalled that Brother Qulaylat had arrived in the Jamahiriyah early Sunday morning on board a special plane following a special invitation from Brother Colonel al-Qadhdhafi.

Formation of Committee To Supervise VOAL Denied
NC301420 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 30 Mar 84

[Text] Commenting on reports about the formation of a committee under the chairmanship of his eminence the mufti of the Lebanese Republic to supervise the Voice of Arab Lebanon radio, a responsible source from the mufti's office said these rumors are unfounded and the mufti's office has no knowledge of them. It is known that cooperation and coordination in religious programs has been, still is, and will continue to be between the mufti's office and the radio station.

'Unidentified' Gunboats Bombard Beirut Areas
NC020522 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0519 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon received information that four unidentified gunboats appeared at 0530 today off Saint George Beach. They opened heavy machine gun fire at the area extending from the Saint George Beach up to the Ar-Rawshah area [in

Beirut]. Security officials have not received any reports of casualties. They only said the gunboats sailed away at the end of their mission.

ISF Official Denies Report

NC020810 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] An Internal Security Forces official has denied a report broadcast by one of the private radios that gunboats had opened fire at the seashore adjacent to the Corniche al-Bahr area. The official said this report is unfounded.

'Guarded Calm' Follows Night of Clashes

NC030643 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] The security situation on the contact lines in Beirut, the southern suburb, and mountain yesterday witnessed a serious setback. Intermittent clashes began before noon yesterday. They were accompanied by the shelling of residential quarters in the afternoon. These clashes soon intensified, and despite contacts to achieve a cease-fire, the clashes continued throughout last night. Shells fell in residential areas close to the combat axes and in some cases reached places far from these axes.

Guarded calm is now prevailing on the various axes. However, occasional explosions can be heard, accompanied by bursts of small arms fire.

Junblatt on Jerusalem Attack, Reacts to Burg

NC021851 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Walid Junblatt has praised the Palestinian operation carried out today in Israel. He said Israeli territory is the correct and suitable place for the Palestinian resistance to conduct its operations, and not the mountain or Al-Hamra Street in West Beirut, as was the case in the past.

Junblatt added that he expects such operations to continue in the future now that the Palestinians have bypassed most of their differences. He said the Palestinians will move to a new phase of confrontation with Israel following a period during which the Palestinian cause was almost forgotten.

Reacting to Israeli Interior Minister Yosef Burg's statement, Junblatt said if the perpetrators of today's operation in Jerusalem really set out from Lebanon, they certainly did not set out from the Ash-Shuf area.

Shaykh Harb Assassin Caught; Implicates IDF Officer

NC022137 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Journalists today met with one of four persons accused of assassinating Shaykh Raghib Harb, imam of the southern town of Jibshit, on 17 February. The meeting was in the form of a news conference that took place at the Amal Movement Headquarters in Burj al-Barajinah. The accused, identified as 24-year-old 'Ali Kamal Bishr, told journalists that he is a member of the National Guard which the Israelis established in southern Lebanon. He said he and three other persons assassinated Shaykh Harb in his residence at the instigation of an Israeli officer.

The accused added that a series of meetings were held before the assassination operation was carried out. He said the meetings were held with an Israeli officer at the Shi'ite Army barracks in Zibdin, near An-Nabatiyah. He identified the Israeli officer as Abu Yusuf, as speaking Arabic, and being approximately 40 years old.

According to the statement made by the accused, the four militiamen proceeded to Shaykh Raghib Harb's house on the evening of 17 February and emptied the contents of their machine guns in Shaykh Harb as soon as he opened the door for them. Afterward, the four men immediately went to the Zibdin barracks where each of them was given 10,000 Lebanese pounds by the Israeli officer Abu Yusuf.

Amal Movement officials also presented to the journalists an 18-year-old youth named Radwan Faqih, also a member of the National Guard. Faqih admitted he had opened fire on a demonstration which the inhabitants of Jibshit organized after Shaykh Harb's assassination, and which proceeded to the nearby village of Habbush, seriously wounding five persons.

The two youths [Bishr and Faqih] said they then arrived in Beirut where they were arrested by the Amal Movement, because they were charged with another task by the same Israeli officer who paid them 5,000 Lebanese pounds in advance to carry out this task. They explained they came to Beirut charged with the task of assassinating two persons in the Amal Movement.

Israelis Intensify Patrols, Close Bridges

NC030959 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0945 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Excerpt] In the south, Israeli helicopters have been observed flying over the area. Meanwhile, Israeli Forces have intensified their patrols and closed a number of accesses to the area, particularly at the Al-Awwali and Sayniq Bridges and at the 'Abradh crossroads.

Radio Reports More Israeli Activity in South

NC031023 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] The Israeli occupation forces this morning surrounded the As-Sit Nafisah Quarter in Sidon, stormed and searched houses, and forced the citizens to assemble on the public street. It should be recalled that this quarter witnessed a military operation last Sunday which was carried out by the national resistance forces against an Israeli military vehicle, in which two Israeli soldiers were killed and two others wounded.

Meanwhile, mechanized Israeli forces took up positions on the crossroads in Sidon, and Israeli soldiers set up several checkpoints. Three helicopters were seen landing high-ranking Israeli officers in the Tallat Mar Ilyas area overlooking Sidon

The Batir-Jazzin Road remains closed, and the Israelis are preventing Lebanese citizens from using this road, which has become the only one linking the south with the other Lebanese areas following the closure of the Al-Awwali Bridge road.

The Israeli forces are continuing to detain a large number of Jibshit residents. It is believed that more than 240 residents of this village have been moved to the Ansar detention camp. Among them is Ahmad Mantash, *AN-NAHAR* newspaper correspondent.

Israelis Overfly Mountain, Al-Biqa' Valley
NC051258 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1230 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Our latest reports say Israeli planes flew over the mountain and Al-Biqa' valley.

Four Civilians Wounded in Attack on IDF Patrol
NC011610 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 1 Apr 84

[Text] Four citizens were wounded when a hand grenade was thrown at 1315 today at an Israeli patrol at the As-Sit Nafisah intersection on the Sidon-'Ayn al-Hulwah Road. None of the patrol members was hurt. Soon thereafter, the Israeli patrol carried out a large-scale combing operation of the area, and searched for the culprit.

Explosion Reported Near IDF Convoy in Sidon
NC031213 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1154 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] An explosion rocked Sidon at 1245 today. It has transpired that it was caused by an explosive device detonated by remote control at the southern approach of the city as a mechanized Israeli convoy was passing. No other information is available about the explosion.

Israel Reportedly Diverting Al-Litani Water
NC020930 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] On the basis of a study prepared by Lebanese economist Kamal Hamdan, news agencies reported today that Israel has completed a large part of the infrastructure work required for a project aimed at diverting 150 million cubic meters of water annually from the Al-Litani River in southern Lebanon to Lake Tiberias in northern Israel. The study says Israel dug a tunnel that begins at the Al-Awwali Bridge, extends to Tall an-Juhas on the Lebanese-Israeli border, and ends in Lake Tiberias. The study says the Israelis only need to open the sluice gates on the Al-Khardali level and build pumping stations before the project can commence operations — a project that aims to divert Lebanese water into Israel.

Syrian Regiment Withdraws From Tripoli
NC021510 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1445 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] According to security reports from the north, a Syrian defense regiment today withdrew from its positions in Tripoli and headed for Syria.

Muslim Group Claims Murder of UK Official in Athens
NC301625 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 30 Mar 84

[Text] An organization calling itself the Revolutionary Organization for Socialist Muslims [al-munazzamah ath-thawriyah li al-muslimin al-ishtirakiyin] today claimed responsibility for assassinating the assistant British consul in Athens last Wednesday. This was contained in a statement delivered to AFP in Beirut. The statement said the operation was in reply to the continued detention of Muslim strugglers in British prisons.

Damascus Radio Reports on Jerusalem Explosions
JN021129 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Before noon today, the Arab resistance men in occupied Jerusalem attacked the Zionist settlers in the heart of the occupied city. They also detonated several bombs at the junction of Haifa [as heard] Street.

The Zionist security sources admitted the attack and said 40 Zionists were wounded. Eyewitnesses said ambulances were seen transferring the dead and wounded from the scene of the incident.

AL-BA'TH Comment on 'Operation'
JN030743 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 3 Apr 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Commenting on the heroic Jerusalem operation *AL-BA'TH* says: Although the fedayeen operation in Jerusalem takes the form of resistance put up by one with rights against those who usurp them, it represents a stage or the beginning of an indispensable stage to confirm the failure of the attempts to sow despair that have been adopted by the Arab moderates to justify their capitulation and defeatism. Audacious confrontation such as this represents the Palestinian decision. However, those who claim to be advocates of the independent decision tried through their despair to explain this decision as laying down arms and replacing it with all sorts of negotiation and authorization. This will eventually lead to the liquidation of a nation's cause against which even the agent Arab rulers in the 1950s could not undermine or destroy.

Therefore, the Jerusalem operation is not a reply to the attempts to liquidate the cause as much as it is the beginning of a stage and a step that has its dimensions and effects on the U.S. plan to Zionize Jerusalem or usurp the Arab people's national identity through the moderates' alliance with the United States and Israel against the Arab nation's national interests.

Shelling of Israeli Settlement Reported
JN022023 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Arab resistance men shelled with rockets the settlement of (?Harun) southeast of Tiberias early today. The enemy admitted this attack, but refrained from reporting the casualties.

Commentary Raps U.S. Security Claims in Lebanon
JN301500 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 30 Mar 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: The United States has once again proposed its card to solve the Lebanese situation, claiming there is no alternative to the Shultz agreement in Lebanon and that there will be no security in Lebanon except through achieving Israel's security. According to Shultz, the Lebanese people must accept his agreement because they lack the necessary components for their existence and because they cannot overlook their wounds in creating their new political reality. Also, according to Shultz, the failure of U.S. diplomacy in Lebanon could be transformed into results that would serve the ideas of U.S. Presidential Envoy Rumsfeld so long as these ideas have a good chance of success with several Arab regimes.

Shultz, who is trying to go back to the past, is reaffirming that the United States will only be biased toward Israel and that any move it will make or complete will not be in Lebanon's favor or at the expense of Israeli demands. Thus, it is an obvious manifestation of U.S. intentions, which harbor deceit and hypocrisy for Lebanon and the Arabs while harboring support and alliance for Israel as well as participation in anything that Israel wants or seeks to achieve. Similarly, as Shultz has been obviously hostile toward the Arabs since assuming the responsibilities of the U.S. secretary of state in the Reagan administration, he is now more obviously emphasizing U.S. commitment to all Israeli trends and Zionist ambitions for the territories of Lebanon and other Arab countries.

If through Shultz, Rumsfeld's moves, and Reagan's statements the United States did not reveal all the secrets of its aggressive designs, then it had done so when it declared yesterday that it would not be committed to any pledge to the Lebanese Government for safeguarding Lebanon's unity and independence. This means that the U.S. Administration will only be committed to whatever concerns Israel. Because Israel always endeavors to undermine Lebanon's independence and unity, and because it always pursues its expansionist policy and aggressive strategy, it is therefore not for reasons of diplomatic protocol that Shultz announces Israel has the right to have security guarantees in Lebanon. This is certainly the U.S. stand, which is always coherent with the Israeli stand.

Regardless of the U.S. stand on Lebanon or the entire Arab region, the current Arab reality is the reason that the United States declared its hostility to the Arabs and their issues. The agreements of Shultz, Reagan, and Haig with some Arab parties were the inroad for the rapid deployment forces in the territories of Egypt, Sudan, and Jordan. The United States established the wall of the Camp David accords to oppress any Arab trend toward unity. The Shultz agreement in Lebanon could not have been concluded had it not been for the defeatists' stands on the Zionist invasion. Therefore, all those who have accepted such a U.S. attitude are the same parties who encouraged Shultz to speak openly about the Israeli demands and to consider them as U.S. demands in Lebanon.

We should remember once again that the Shultz agreement was not abrogated, with all its intentions, in order to be proposed once again; and we should remember that the force which imposed this abrogation is still the same force which is concerned about encircling U.S. policy in the region. Because Syria constitutes this force, there is no other option for Shultz and other experts in U.S. policy but to believe that their plans will be aborted and

that Arab steadfastness against U.S. ideas and plans does not derive its strength from defeatists.

The spirit of sacrifice and martyrdom in southern Lebanon, the sticks and stones in the hands of the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza, and the Arab masses' conviction of the national weight that Syria has, are all factors of strength for the Arabs, and deep-rooted barriers placed before conspiratory plans and capitulatory solutions.

We in Syria are decisionmakers. Our stand is firm — there is no place for defeatists in the Arab ranks and there is no other way for the Arab nation but that of struggle to restore every single inch that has been usurped from the Arab land. Our struggler President Hafiz al-Asad has made several statements to us in this steadfast country that make us more cohesive with the struggle and strugglers. We would rather fight for 100 years than relinquish a single inch of our national soil.

Damascus Views 6th Fleet Withdrawal as Victory

JN311430 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 31 Mar 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: Orders have been given to the ships of the U.S. 6th Fleet to leave Lebanon's territorial waters and to resume their routine work. This was announced by U.S. President Ronald Reagan, the very person who had ordered those ships into the Lebanese territorial waters and their vicinity in the greatest naval buildup since World War II. The U.S. President announced that buildup and the direct U.S. military intervention in Lebanon with great fanfare as an expression of the policy of armed force by the U.S. Administration and Washington's assumption of the role of tutelage and hegemony over Lebanon and the region.

Some people considered Reagan's military intervention move in Lebanon as part of the U.S. presidential election campaign. Others may now consider the new U.S. move also as part of the election campaign and President Reagan's bid for re-election for a new presidential term. But this analysis and conclusion will remain superficial if one does not take into consideration the nature of the current struggle in the region, the powers involved, and the events which have taken place since the United States flexed its political muscles in Lebanon and then resorted to direct military intervention to assert its control over Lebanon, to exert pressure on Syria, and to publicize the Camp David line in its new image — the Reagan proposals announced on 1 September 1982.

It one takes into consideration what the region has witnessed over the past few months since the direct U.S. military intervention in Lebanon, one will come to the conclusion that the departure of the U.S. Marines from the Lebanese territories and the retreat of the U.S. 6th Fleet with everything aboard deep into the Mediterranean Sea and the Aegean Sea, and possibly further away on the high seas, constitute a defeat, in the full sense of the word, to U.S. policy in the Middle East and the policy of the use or threat of armed force which the U.S. Administration has pursued in the region under President Ronald Reagan. This U.S. defeat is a major political and military defeat. The one primarily responsible for this material and moral defeat for the United States in the region is President Ronald Reagan and his aides.

The United States has used force in Lebanon and against Syria. But the shells only bruised the mountains of Lebanon. Those shells neither wiped out those mountains nor changed their nature. Those shells also did not scare the Lebanese people. The United States, this superpower, tried its strength against Syria, a relatively small state, but Syria was not scared and did not retreat, give in, or succumb to U.S. hegemony. Through its brave self-defense and the wisdom of its leadership, Syria proved that a small state defending itself, freedom and justice is capable, even under the existing international balance of power, of effectively and competently confronting aggression, tyranny, and gunboat diplomacy.

The defeat the United States has suffered in the region is an important historical landmark in the record of development in this region. It marks the beginning of the final recession of U.S. influence from the region and the demise of the imperialist-Israeli military option in this region. The nations of the world which have closely followed the clash between the United States and Syria have gained a new self-confidence, great strength, and hope in the future. No matter how the United States tries to avenge Syria's victory, by threats, pressures, plots, and maneuvers, the course charted by the leader struggler President Hafiz al-Asad will remain the one which the masses in Syria and the rest of the Arab countries will continue to defend.

There will be no course in Syria other than the one that achieved this great victory and change in the interest of progress, freedom, and Arabism.

Dailies Note End of U.S. Role, Urge Accord

JN010805 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 1 Apr 84

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Background to the U.S. Decision," *AL-BA'TH* says: U.S. President Reagan has officially announced the end of the multinational force's mission in Lebanon and called for the withdrawal of U.S. warships from the Lebanese territorial waters. He also said that continued U.S. military participation in Lebanon is no longer essential. However, the U.S. President reaffirmed that U.S. foreign policy interests in Lebanon have not changed.

AL-BA'TH adds: This new development should be added to the victory which the national and pan-Arab forces achieved with the toppling of the 17 May agreement. That victory was considered then as a precursor to other victories for the Arab nation represented by expelling the Zionist invaders from Lebanon and ridding Arab Egypt of the Camp David accords and all their treasonous results. It has become clear and firm to all the sides in Lebanon that the abrogation of the 17 May agreement and the Reagan administration's decision terminating the role of the multinational force and ordering U.S. warships to their previous places makes it incumbent on all these sides to interact with these

new developments carefully, make an earnest effort to reinforce the cease-fire on all fighting axes, and consequently cooperate together in creating new circumstances through which future Lebanon can confront the Zionist enemy which is still occupying the south and intimidating and displacing its inhabitants. If all these sides agree together to reach an accord guaranteeing Lebanon the unity of its territory and people, they will get the necessary support from Syria to achieve this goal.

AL-BA'TH says: What Reagan reiterated yesterday, that his country's interests in Lebanon have not changed, urges us to emphasize that the enemies of Lebanon's unity might again move on different fronts to abort the victories achieved in Lebanon. The U.S. Administration, Israel, and certain Arab quarters are still dreaming of changing the victories achieved on the ground in Lebanon into gains for them exactly as the murdered Anwar as-Sadat did after the October war. Therefore, we say that the Arab patriotic forces should understand that the abrogation of the 17 May agreement, the end of the multinational force's role, and the withdrawal of the U.S. warships is not the end, especially since it is very possible that the U.S. President's decision may be just a maneuver prior to a major act of aggression. Reagan's statement that Washington's foreign policy interests in Lebanon have not changed means that U.S. aggressive attempts may be repeated by different methods other than the bombs of warships and planes.

AL-BA'TH concludes: It remains to be stressed that the present U.S. Administration may not accept its defeat in Lebanon, especially in an election year. The Lebanese issue is bound to be included in the balance sheet of profits and losses. Therefore, the forces concerned with finding radical solutions to all Lebanon's problems are called upon to face up to their responsibility and to be ready for any new development that might pose a danger to Lebanon and Syria.

In an article today, *TISHRIN* says: With the departure of the multinational force and its fleets, new opportunities and circumstances have been created for an in-depth Lebanese dialogue now that the reinforced cease-fire, both a Syrian and a Lebanese demand, has become a reality as is obvious from the general calm and stability. Since all the sides, with the exception of certain well known agents, sincerely seek dialogue and accord, nothing should prevent crystallizing principles and aspirations into solid constitutional and political formulas removing all the causes of the conflict, especially since Syria has thrown all its weight in the battle to enable Lebanon to overcome its tribulation and recover its health. Syria has announced through its leader Al-Asad that Lebanese accord is a strategic objective for Syria. It also announced through Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam that there may come a time when it will be difficult to permit the continuation of the fighting in Lebanon, because it is a waste of time and resources and is contempt for the Lebanese and their aspirations. Such fighting, he said, only serves the enemies of Lebanon, Syria, and the Arab nation. It particularly serves Israel's expansionist and aggressive interests.

The paper concludes: The lessons of the previous phase were definitely most eloquent. It has become clear to everyone that U.S. credibility only applies to Israel and its plans and that Syrian credibility is the basis and the deciding factor. It has also become clear to everyone that the United States and its fleets cannot impose its wish on peoples and that the cards to a solution in the region are in the hands of the people of this region and not in the hands of Washington and Tel Aviv. In other words, the policy of submitting to Washington leads, in practice, to submitting to Israel and abandoning Arab rights. On the other hand, steadfastness and confrontation are the Arabs' course to national salvation. Lebanon's experience has been a lesson for all those who still do not believe in wagering on the Arab option.

ATH-THAWRAH on U.S. Credibility in Region

JN011256 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0735 GMT 1 Apr 84

[Text] Damascus, 1 Apr (SANA) — In its commentary today *ATH-THAWRAH* asserts the absolute U.S. bias toward Israel and says this was proven by events and the course of the Arab-Zionist conflict. The United States, it adds, financed the June 1967 and the October 1973 wars, and also planned the invasion of Lebanon with Israel. Thus the United States has become Israel's full partner in any military action it undertakes in the region.

The paper says: The successive U.S. Administrations have not carried out any agreement or commitment they have pledged, which makes the Arabs distrust U.S. credibility because the United States is executing and defending Israeli policy at all levels to serve Israeli interests and ambitions.

The paper stresses this policy is beginning to lead the United States toward a catastrophe in the Middle East region. By its military involvement in Lebanon, which was in the interest of Israel, the United States has lost its credibility even with those countries with which it has special relations. The result is a complete strategic defeat for U.S. policy manifested when the Marines were forced to withdraw from Beirut, when the agreement of submission was foiled and when the multinational forces left Lebanon.

ATH-THAWRAH says: These facts have proven that force and aggression cannot impose the law of the jungle and forfeit the liberty of peoples. But the United States does not want to learn, or comprehend this fact. It still insists on employing the theory of force. This is where the dilemma of its policy in the region lies. The paper stresses that time is working for the benefit of the Arab liberation movement led by Syria and not for the benefit of Israel and the United States. This fact is pronounced on the conflict's horizons during this stage.

The paper also stresses that victory will be the reward of the peoples struggling for freedom and independence, that the nature of this era is based on this basic formula, and that the defeats inflicted on the United States all over the world confirm the truth and credibility of this.

Shultz Says Lebanon Withdrawal Cost 'High Price'
JN021526 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz has subtly described the failure of the Reagan Administration's policy in Lebanon — namely, that the U.S. Marines' withdrawal from Lebanon was a setback to U.S. diplomacy in the region and cost the United States a high price, that the recent events in Lebanon were a disappointment to the United States, and that the U.S. forces' withdrawal from Lebanon resulted in the loss of U.S. assets and cost it a high price in the Middle East.

We do not believe there is an acknowledgement more frank than that of George Shultz, the patron of the 17 May agreement and the defender to the last minute of U.S. military interference in Lebanon. The U.S. defeat in Lebanon is historic, because it was the first direct U.S. military clash in the region with the Arab liberation movement, represented by Syria. The United States was militarily and politically defeated in this clash.

Instead of becoming a U.S. and NATO military base to be used against the Lebanese people, Syria, and all of the Arab forces who adhere to the land and rights and refuse to be subservient to the United States or to submit to Israel, Lebanon turned out to be proof that the imperialist states are no longer able to dominate the small states and peoples seeking freedom. It also proved that a small state such as Syria is able to defend rights and justice, act in favor of peace, resist aggression and hegemony as well as attempts to impose will, and defeat a superpower such as the United States. This ability is based on Syria's intrinsic strength, the sacrifices of its people and armed forces, and the skill and courage of its leadership. It benefits from the international balance of powers that develops against the interests of imperialism. Syria and its leadership were honored by George Shultz' acknowledgement to the NBC television network that Syria was the main party contributing to the defeat of U.S. policy in Lebanon, because that defeat is a victory for the fraternal Lebanese people, the Arab nation, the national liberation movement, and all forces in the world that love freedom, independence, and peace.

U.S. defeat in Lebanon and the withdrawal of its forces and fleets from Lebanon do not mean that the United States has submitted or has laid down its arms. Shultz has said that the United States might search for new means to reach its goals. It is natural that the U.S. arrows will be directed at Syria and its courageous leadership, which epitomizes the Arab masses' hopes and leads their struggle. Just as it became a representative of the aspirations and hopes of the Arab masses in the entire homeland, the leadership of struggler President Hafiz al-Asad is also the main enemy of U.S. imperialism and its agents.

The masses of the Arab nation and all the progressive forces hostile to imperialism and racism in the world are rallying around President Hafiz al-Asad, the leader of the Arab nation's struggle. This force is unique in the world. This is what makes the Arab masses confident that the great victory that President Leader Hafiz al-Asad has achieved for his nation is a historic turning point in the conflict raging in the region between the Arab national liberation movement and imperialism with all its consequences, agents, and satellites.

USSR's Brutents Praises Syria, Scores U.S. Policy
JN021042 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0800 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Damascus, 2 Apr (SANA) — Karen Brutents, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, has said that the United States is still wagering on driving a wedge in the Palestinian resistance movement, isolating Syria, and pushing the Palestinians toward capitulatory stands.

In an article for *TISHRIN*, published here today, Brutents adds that Washington's adventure in Lebanon failed miserably after the foiling of the 17 May agreement and the failure of the military pressures carried out by the U.S.-Israeli alliance against Syria. Syria remained steadfast and did not go back on its principled line. The Syrian leadership and people showed magnificent steadfastness which played a great role in destroying the U.S. plans.

The Soviet official says that events in Lebanon have shown the calculations and wagers of the reactionaries on the U.S. tyranny were futile. These events have also confirmed the shameful end of the U.S. adventure and the Arabs' ability to defend their interests when they tread the roads of struggle.

Brutents stresses that Syria is not alone in its struggle, but is supported by the Soviet Union and the socialist countries. The latest Syrian-Soviet talks in Damascus have asserted that relations between the two countries play an important role in facing the U.S.-Israeli plans in the Middle East and that the Syrian position is very important to all the liberation movements because Syria is the main Arab force confronting the hostile plans.

Spain's Moran, Delegation Arrive 2 Apr
JN021536 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1405 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Damascus, 2 Apr (SANA) — Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr Fernando Moran and his delegation arrived here today on a two-day visit to Syria.

Minister of Foreign Affairs Faruq ash-Shar', the heads of various Foreign Ministry departments, Syrian Ambassador to Spain Riad Siage, the Spanish ambassador in Damascus, and the embassy's staff received the guest minister.

In a statement on arrival, Dr Moran said that his visit to Damascus aims at strengthening the existing relations between Syria and Spain.

Dr Moran added that his talks with Syrian officials will deal with a number of subjects of concern to both countries, especially economic and cultural subjects. He added that the talks will deal with the current political situation in the Middle East.

Views Arms to Saudis

LD022015 Madrid in Spanish to Europe 1600 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Spanish Foreign Minister Fernando Moran has traveled to the Syrian capital, Damascus, after his 2-day visit to Saudi Arabia. During his stay in Damascus Dr Moran, together with the authorities of that country, will evaluate the Middle East situation and the war between Iran and Iraq, among other subjects. In Saudi Arabia, the Spanish foreign minister studied the possible sale of $100 million worth of Spanish arms. At the same time, Fernando Moran declared that at the moment Spain does not foresee the establishment of diplomatic relations with the State of Israel.

Talks With Khaddam

JN021941 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Talks began between Foreign Minister Faruq ash-Shar' and Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr Fernando Moran at the Foreign Ministry this evening. Attending on the Syrian side were Assistant Foreign Minister 'Isam an-Na'ib; the heads of the West European, information, education, and economy departments, and the Syrian ambassador to Spain. Attending on the Spanish side were the members of Dr Moran's delegation and the Spanish ambassador in Damascus.

During the talks, conversation revolved around the current international situation, the situation in the region, especially in the Lebanese arena, and existing bilateral relations. They also discussed the means of promoting cooperation between Syria and Spain, especially in the educational and economic fields.

Faruq ash-Shar' received Dr Moran before the talks began. Sulayman Haddad, head of the West European Department at the Foreign Ministry, the Syrian ambassador to Spain, and the Spanish ambassador in Damascus were present.

Ash-Shar', Delegation Depart Tunis 1 Apr

JN012207 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 1 Apr 84

[Text] Tunis —Foreign Minister Faruq Ash-Shar' left Tunis this afternoon following a 5-day visit. During this visit, Ash-Shar' headed the Syrian delegation attending the 81st ordinary session of the Arab League Council, which concluded its work yesterday. During this visit, the foreign minister held talks with a number of Arab foreign ministers and heads of the delegation participating in the meetings of the Arab League Council. During these meetings, Ash-Shar' reviewed relations between Syria and the fraternal Arab countries, as well as the situation in the Arab region in general and in the Lebanese arena in particular. PDRY Foreign Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali left Tunis on the same plane.

Ash-Shar' and Ad-Dali were seen off at Tunis International Airport by Chedli Klibi, Arab League Secretary General; 'Adnan 'Umran, Arab League assistant secretary general for political and international affairs; 'Umar as-Sayyid, Syrian charge d'affaires in Tunis; the PDRY ambassador in Tunis; and the staff of the Syrian Embassy in Tunis.

Qaddurah Returns From Sekou Toure Funeral

JN022019 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Damascus — 'Abd al-Qadir Qaddurah, deputy prime minister for economic affairs, returned to Damascus from Conakry this evening after representing President Hafiz al-Asad at the funeral of the late Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure.

Reportage on Reaction to Jerusalem Terrorist Attack

Shamir Promises Punishment

TA021350 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1335 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Those people who carried out the attacks and those who gave them their orders will be severely punished, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said several minutes ago in reaction to the attack in Jerusalem this morning.

[Begin Shamir recording] Prior to this attack there were many attempts to attack Jerusalem and its Jewish population. Fortunately, most of them were foiled thanks to the successful efforts of our security forces. Today they succeeded in wounding and murdering people. We will do everything we can to prevent a repetition of such attacks. Those who carried out the attack and those who gave them their orders will be most severely punished. We are saddened by the deaths and wish a speedy recovery to the wounded. [end recording]

The prime minister was speaking at the General Staff Headquarters with our correspondent Gil Ronen.

Shamir on Jerusalem, Lebanon

TA030650 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Interview with Prime Minister Shamir by correspondents Shalom Qital and Shim'on Schiffer on 3 April, place not given — recorded]

[Excerpt] [Qital] Good morning, Mr Prime Minister. Are the people right who fear that what happened in the center of the capital yesterday is a new phenomenon, a new kind of sabotage or terrorism?

[Shamir] I do not believe there is reason for special anxiety. The Arab terrorist war against Israel has not ceased for many years now, and frequently takes new forms, in actions such as yesterday's attack in Jerusalem. We have had them in the past, and our security organizations ensure that acts such as these are thwarted and prevented.

[Qital] Do you have any information at this time as to where the terrorists came from?

[Shamir] The various services are investigating, and they already know a great deal, but at this point I will refrain from going into detail.

[Schiffer] Mr Prime Minister, the terrorists came from somewhere, and things have been heating up lately in the eastern sector facing the Syrians. How does the government plan to act in this connection?

[Shamir] As for the two points you made, the escalation in the eastern sector is something else again, and different from the attempt, the terrorist attack, that was staged yesterday. The terrorist attacks against Jerusalem keep recurring, at least the attempts keep recurring, and Jerusalem is a preferred target of the various terrorist organizations. This has no connection with what is happening in Lebanon. Naturally, we feel that in light of the fact that the terrorists who carried out yesterday's despicable attack seemingly came from across the Lebanese border, we will have to take steps and tighten crossing arrangements at the border.

Burg Praises Citizens Alertness

JN030954 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 2 Apr 84

[From the "With the Events" program]

[Text] Interior Minister Dr Yosef Burg held a press conference at the police headquarters in the capital at noon today. He said that the difficulty in combating terrorism lies in the fact that the terrorist is the one who chooses the place, time, and both the way and medium of his act. Therefore, he added, there is always the factor of surprise. However, he said, the people demonstrated a large degree of alertness during the incident. One terrorist was killed and the two other accomplices were arrested. Burg said there is no alternative to the alertness of citizens in such cases.

The interior minister concluded his press statement by indicating that the investigation is still going on to determine the sides which were behind this incident.

Replying to a question on the identity of the perpetrators of this incident and where they come from, Dr Burg said: They might have come from Gaza, Hebron, East Jerusalem, or even Lebanon.

Terrorists Disclose Purpose

TA031156 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 3 Apr 84 pp 1, 11

[Report by Yosef Walter and Barukh Me'iri]

[Excerpt] The two terrorists who are still alive apparently did not plan their attack to be a "suicide mission." They said that they had planned to flee the site of the action immediately after carrying it out, using a rented car. It also transpires that they had no intention of taking hostages or conducting negotiations over the release of their colleagues in jail.

The two terrorists told their interrogators that they entered central Jerusalem with the purpose of "killing for killing's sake." They added that they planned to escape to Hebron. "We had no idea that the civilians here would be armed," they said.

The investigation of the security forces revealed that the terrorists possessed weapons made in the Soviet Union and Poland. The submachineguns they had are considered modern.

DAVAR on Terrorists Intentions

TA031045 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 3 Apr 84 p 1

[Report by Arab affairs correspondnet Dan Avidan]

[Excerpt] The attack in Jerusalem, from the PLO standpoint, is a declaration of sorts whose message is that despite the rifts and conflicts within that organization's ranks, and the blows the terrorists suffered in the course of the war in Lebanon notwithstanding, the terrorists are not giving up the war against Israel within its boundaries, and will not make do with merely engaging in a struggle against the IDF in southern Lebanon.

The act yesterday was aimed at focusing attention on the PLO once again, following a long period during which the Palestinian cause was not at the center of Middle Eastern affairs. According to most indications, the attack was carried out by members of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine led by Nayif Hawatimah. That organization belongs to the radical PLO organizations, and it has been responsible for previous mass attacks in Israel as well. At the same time, it is not an organization that is much influenced by Syria.

So far no PLO element whatsoever, including the pragmatic faction led by Yasir 'Arafat, has been known to express reservations about the attack in Jerusalem. This proves that both 'Arafat and his supporters, despite their declarations of readiness to join the political process under certain conditions, believe in war against Israel as an integral part of the Palestinian strategy.

Ambassador Urges EC To Withdraw Support of PLO

TA030600 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Israel's ambassador to France, 'Ovadia Sofer, has called on the EC to cancel political support of the PLO following the attack in Jerusalem. In a statement to the press, the ambassador stresses that since the DFLP terrorist organisation assumed responsibility for this attack, its parent organization — the PLO — can no longer be regarded as a partner for any negotiations.

Shamir on Attacks From Syrian Zone in Lebanon

TA021421 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] The prime minister was the guest of the General Staff Headquarters today and he was there when he heard the news about the attack in Jerusalem. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal asked him about the increased terrorist attacks from the Syrian-controlled zone upon our soldiers in Lebanon and Mr Shamir said that steps had been taken.

Should developments warrant them, additional steps will have to be taken. As for the Katyushas that were launched near the northern border, the prime minister said that they did not land across the border and that everything will be done to stop these kinds of attacks as well.

Cautions Against Hasty Action

TA021813 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has said we should not do anything hasty in southern Lebanon because we might regret it later. The correct decision must be made with in-depth consideration. He said this during a discussion held at the IDF General Staff Headquarters. The prime minister, who was being hosted by the General Staff Headquarters, was briefed by the chief of the IDF Intelligence Branch and the chief of the IDF Planning Branch on the IDF deployment, the reinforcement of Arab armies, and the IDF's program for the coming year.

Asks 'Unconventional' Lebanon Solution

TA031004 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 3 Apr 84 p 1

[Report by 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Text] In his meeting with the IDF General Staff yesterday, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir asked them to propose unconventional solutions for the Lebanese problem. In his first meeting with the General Staff since he was appointed prime minister, Shamir said that it is impossible to obtain 100 percent security in Lebanon, whether or not we remain there.

He added that Israel must adopt the correct resolution in regard to Lebanon, and the IDF is famous for its expertise in unconventional solutions. For example, it found ways to manufacture arms when they were in short supply, and has also solved manpower shortage problems.

Shamir expressed his desire to hear unconventional ideas, and said that there is no need to rush on the matter. He emphasized that our predicament in Lebanon is not that bad, which is why there is no reason to hurry the General Staff Command to propose the kind of solutions he was seeking.

This *HA'ARETZ* reporter notes that the political echelon is currently not considering a redeployment in Lebanon in the near future, and the proposals of the security echelons are awaited. A top political source told *HA'ARETZ* that no substantial changes should be expected in the IDF deployment prior to the elections.

Habash Claims Responsibility for Katyusha Attack

TA021335 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] George Habash's organization has issued an announcement accepting responsibility for the Katyushas that were fired north of Misgav 'Am yesterday. The Popular Front announcement, which was issued in Damascus, claims that the launching of the Katyushas resulted in casualties in the northern settlements. Our correspondent points out that in yesterday's attack one Katyusha rocket exploded near the village of Al-'Udaysah, north of the border, and another rocket did not explode. There were no casualties.

Syrian Control Over 'Terrorists' Slackening

TA020521 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Senior IDF sources say Syrian control over the terrorists in the eastern sector in Lebanon has slackened in the last few months, and that consequently the number of terrorist attacks has increased. The terrorists currently penetrate IDF-controlled areas, open fire at positions, and plant land mines. Israel regards Syria as responsible for maintaining calm in the area, our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal was told.

A debriefing following the IDF artillery's shelling of the area showed that the hits on the targets had been accurate, and that three buildings where terrorists were identified had been damaged. Yesterday's artillery shelling was aimed at two terrorist headquarters in the northern Al-Biqa', south of Barr Ilyas, which served as bases for launching attacks.

Lebanese Confirm IDF Strikes

TA021853 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Yesterday's shelling of the northern Lebanese Al-Biqa' valley by IDF artillery hit positions belonging to three terrorist organizations, sources in Shtawrah, Lebanon, confirmed. The positions belong to Fatah dissidents who rebelled against Yasir 'Arafat, the Popular Front — General Command, and the Arab Lebanese Army organization [name as heard]. The Lebanese authorities and the Syrians prevented correspondents from approaching the shelled area. People who were in the area, however, told correspondents that the terrorists' positions received direct hits yesterday.

Security Sources on Syrian Behavior in Lebanon

TA011046 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 1 Apr 84 p 2

[Report by Roni Daniyel]

[Excerpt] At the end of last week senior security sources assessed that there was a Syrian trend toward heating up the cease-fire line between the Syrian and Israeli Armies.

The incident on Thursday, 30 March, in which an IDF soldier was wounded by shots fired from a Syrian position, ended 6 months of calm along the deployment line of the two armies.

The incident that occurred on Friday night was also different from the well-known incidents. The firing was aimed at a position on the deployment line, not at lines deep inside the territory.

While the possibility does exist that the initiatives for heating up the line come from the local Syrian commanders, it is more reasonable to assume that the orders for this were given from Damascus, to demonstrate that Syria is also taking the credit for weakening the IDF in Lebanon, not only its agents who are active deep inside the area.

Syrian 'Security Figure' Reportedly in Amman

TA031038 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 3 Apr 84 p 2

["Exclusive" report from Cairo by 'Oded Zaray]

[Excerpt] Cairo — A high-ranking Syrian security figure visited Amman recently and conferred with top Jordanian officials about the future of relations between the two countries. Reports by Arab sources here say that for the moment the outcome of the meetings is unknown, but they will very likely continue.

The sources also reported that along with these meetings are expected the results of behind-the-scenes contacts between the PLO and Syria in view of the upcoming PNC meeting at the end of the month, and the possibility of reaching an arrangement between the Syrian Administration and 'Arafat. The sources reveal that the branch in charge of the PLO in the Syrian intelligence services has composed a "working paper" on regulating the presence and activity of the terrorist organizations in Syria and Lebanon.

The internal conflicts and the latest changes made in the Syrian Administration could have resulted in a certain laxity of supervision of local military elements in the Syrian contingent in Lebanon, and in conflicting instructions from Damascus. This is the Arab sources' assessment of the latest developments in the Lebanese Al-Biqa' region.

They believe that a tense atmosphere has been created over the past few weeks against the background of the appointment of Rif'at al-Asad, President al-Asad's brother, as vice president for national security affairs. However, reports from Damascus indicate that so far a lull can be felt and Rif'at is capitalizing on his new authority.

Israelis Abroad Ruled Not Eligible To Vote

TA030700 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 3 Apr 84 pp 1, 7

[Report by Knesset correspondent Asher Wallfish]

[Excerpt] The three largest Knesset factions have decided once again to keep Israelis abroad disenfranchised during the coming Knesset elections, even though they may be Foreign Ministry or Jewish Agency emisaries sent overseas on official business.

This was decided at yesterday's meeting of the Knesset Constitution, Law, and Justice Committee, which is preparing private members bills on the dissolution of the Tenth Knesset and for early elections for their regular first reading tomorrow.

Navon To Run on Alignment Knesset List

TA021429 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Shim'on Peres and Yitzhaq Navon have agreed that the latter will run on the Alignment Knesset list, although his place has not yet been determined. He will also be elected to the party's

institutions and will establish his own campaign headquarters. During the meeting, it was agreed that Navon's place on the list will be decided before compiling the final list for the Knesset.

TZOMET Movement Joins Tehiya in Elections

TA011733 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 1 Apr 84

[Text] Former Chief of Staff Refa'el Eytan's TZOMET [reviving Zionism] movement decided a short while ago to respond to the Tehiya movement's appeal to form a bloc to run in the elections for the 11th Knesset. Our correspondent Asher Schwartz reports that the TZOMET secretariat has also called for uniting all national Zionist forces in preparation for the elections.

Abba Eban Discusses Upcoming Cairo Visit

JN031001 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 2 Apr 84

[From the "With the Events" program]

[Text] Abba Eban, Knesset member and former foreign minister, will leave for Cairo tomorrow. Eban will meet today with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. Colleague Fu'ad Shabi had this interview with Eban.

[Begin Shabi recording] Although Abba Eban is fluent in written Arabic, he preferred to speak in Hebrew in order to express himself more accurately. Eban said: The Egyptian Government through Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, had invited me to visit Egypt in July 1982, For obvious reasons, namely, the start of the war in Lebanon, I was forced to postpone the date of this visit. Eban added: Regrettably,the Egyptian Government is not currently holding contacts with the Israeli Government on any level.

However, there are contacts between the Israeli labor movement, that is, the Labor Party, and the Egyptians via the ruling NDP. Moreover, the Egyptians consider me an expert in Egyptian affairs and one of the advocates of the peace agreement between the two states. In the past, I was closely involved with Egyptian literature. I translated several Egyptian dramas into Western languages.

Abba Eban added: It is obvious that the purpose of my visit is to explain the ideas and concepts of someone who was once an Israeli foreign minister and who will have a position in the next government if the Labor Party forms it.

These ideas and concepts deal with what can be done to improve relations between Egypt and Israel. Naturally, I will voice my opinions and concepts about this subject.

Moreover, I will deliver a lecture to the members of the diplomatic center in Cairo on my recent book "The Modern Diplomacy." I will also take part in a ceremonial dinner banquet in which I will talk about relations between Egypt and Israel. [end recording]

Moroccan King Sends Message to Shamir, Peres

TA020955 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 2 Apr 84 p 1

[Report by Barukh Me'iri]

[Text] David 'Amar, the head of the Jewish community in Morocco, met with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Alignment leader Shim'on Peres in Israel last week. Reports in Jerusalem say that he brought with him a message from Morocco's King Hassan.

Both the prime minister's office and Shim'on Peres's office confirmed last night, in reply to a question by *MA'ARIV*, that a meeting had been held with the head of the Moroccan Jewish community, but they were not prepared to comment in any way on the reports of a message from Hassan. Shim'on Peres said: "Beyond confirming that I met with David 'Amar, I am not prepared to elaborate on the issue."

It was thanks to the Moroccan monarch's mediation that a historic meeting was held a few years ago in that country between the late Moshe Dayan and As-Sadat's adviser Hasan at-Tuhami, a meeting that was instrumental in preparing for the Egyptian president's visit to Israel. The impression in Jerusalem last night was that this time, too, the Moroccan king may have sent a message to the Israeli leaders, and that he is planning to launch a new move in connection with the relations between Israel and the Arab countries.

Special ties have been established over the years between the Moroccan king and Shim'on Peres. As the media reported at great length, Peres had gone to Morocco a number of times in the past, and met with the monarch. Last night, speaking to *MA'ARIV*, Peres noted: "Such reports have appeared, but I never confirmed them."

Although Israel and Morocco do not maintain formal ties, Morocco has been allowing Israelis born in Morocco to visit it without any limitation. This practice has been in effect for a number of years now.

Thatcher Accepts Invitation To Visit; No Date Fixed

TA010752 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 1 Apr 84 p 2

[Report from London by Hayim Corney]

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher on Friday accepted an invitation to visit Israel extended to her by President Hayim Herzog when he called on her at 10 Downing Street. But it is understood that no date has been fixed. Thatcher visited Israel some time prior to becoming prime minister.

The Thatcher-Herzog meeting, their first, lasted much longer than scheduled, about 90 minutes. Thatcher had made it clear at the outset that she had deliberately set aside additional time, as she wanted a thorough discussion.

The statement issued by 10 Downing Street after the meeting said they had "a very long and friendly conversation on bilateral relations between Israel and the UK and the situation in the Middle East, including developments in Lebanon."

Herzog Invites Queen Elizabeth To Visit

TA030659 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 3 Apr 84 p 1

[Report from London by Hyam Corney]

[Excerpt] London — President Hayim Herzog yesterday invited Queen Elizabeth II to visit Israel, apparently seeking equal treatment after her visit to Jordan last week.

The Israel Embassy said Herzog extended the invitation when he and his wife Ora were luncheon guests at Windsor Castle.

A statement from the embassy said: "The president told her majesty that were she able to accept an invitation, she would be a most honoured and most welcomed guest in Israel. Obviously this would be a matter to be dealt with through the customary government channels."

Israeli officials and newspapers have expressed concern that the queen's five-day visit to Jordan gave the impression she was siding with the Arabs in the Middle East conflict.

Government Denies Receiving West German Guns

TA021805 Tel Aviv ITIM In Hebrew 1735 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Jerusalem, 2 Apr (ITIM) — In reaction to a report that appeared today in the West German weekly *DER SPIEGEL*, the Defense Ministry spokesman says: It is well known that the West German Government has never approved the sale of 120-mm guns to Israel, and indeed, Israel has never received this type of gun or the know-how for its manufacture from any place in the world. The spokesman characterized the report as a "complete lie."

Swedish Assistant Foreign Minister Visits

TA301239 Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 30 Mar 84 p 2

[Report by Jerusalem political correspondent]

[Text] Sweden will resist any attempt to harm Israel's stand in the United Nations and other organizations connected with it. This was stated yesterday by Swedish Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs Pierre Schori in a meeting with Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche.

The visitor, who came for a 3-day visit, is one of the leaders of the Swedish Social Democratic Labor Party. He invited Kimche to visit Sweden.

This visit is part of the Foreign Ministry's efforts to bring about a dialogue with the Scandinavian countries. In this framework the Norwegian foreign minister and the director general of Finland's Foreign Ministry visited Israel. A delegation from Finland visited Israel this week for signing a cultural and scientific agreement. Next month the Norwegian assistant foreign minister will visit Israel.

Mr Kimche explained to the visitor the problems of the area and the problems of Lebanon. He told him that the terrorists in 1982 had 500 artillery pieces at Israel's border, while at the same period the British Army had 876 artillery pieces!

The Swedish guest explained the neutral policy of his country and the plan to establish a nuclear demilitarized zone.

Visitor Criticizes Israeli Policy

TA010806 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 1 Apr 84 p 2

[Excerpts] Sweden's Foreign Ministry Director-General Pierre Schori criticized Israel's policies in the West Bank and in Latin America during his three-day visit here, which ended yesterday.

The visit, in which Schori held several meetings with Foreign Ministry Director-General David Kimche and other senior ministry officials was the first by a senior Swedish official in a decade.

During his talks here, Schori is understood to have criticized Israel's policy regarding the Palestinian problem, and Israeli policy in Latin America.

Following a visit to the West Bank, Schori referred to the refugee camps there as "ghettoes," and to the Jewish settlements as "golden ghettoes" surrounded by barbed wire.

Danish Education Minister Arrives for Talks

TA011833 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1758 GMT 1 Apr 84

[Text] Ben-Gurion Airport, 1 Apr (ITIM) — Danish Education Minister Bertel Haarder arrived this afternoon for a 1-week visit as the guest of Education Minister Zvulun Hammer.

At Ben-Gurion Airport he was received by Eli'ezer Shmu'eli, the director general of the Educaiton Ministry, and a representative of the Foreign Ministry.

The visit reciprocates Minister Hammer's visit to Denmark about 2 years ago. During their working meetings the two ministers will discuss the implementation of a Danish-Israeli agreement to exchange curricula on various subjects.

The Danish minister will tour educational institutions, educational laboratories for adults, and other related projects during his visit.

More Funds To Be Allocated to Settlements

TA020949 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
2 Apr 84 p 1

[Report by Gid'on Alon]

[Text] A decision has been made in consultations recently held by Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, Finance Minister Yig'al Kohen-Orgad, and Matityahu Drobles, the head of the World Zionist Organization's [WZO] Land Settlement Department to accelerate the settlement drive in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza District in light of the decision to advance the date for elections to the 11th Knesset.

Drobles complained to Shamir and Kohen-Orgad about the shortage of sufficient funds to expand the existing settlements. He also pointed out the need to establish new settlements in areas of prime military importance in Judaea and Samaria. As a result of his plea, it was decided to allocate at once an additional budget of 1.25 billion shekels from the budget reserves. In a talk with *HA'ARETZ* last night, Drobles refused to confirm the sum agreed upon for settlements in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza District, but he did confirm that he held a series of meetings with senior officials and personalities, and raised the problem of the budgetary constraints which are hampering the settlement momentum.

It has been learned that Minister Yuval Ne'eman, who chairs the joint government-WZO committee on settlement affairs, has summoned the committee members for three meetings, the first of which will be held today and the other two scheduled for 10 and 11 April, to discuss approval for establishing new settlements in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza District.

It has been learned that the idea is to take vigorous action to strengthen the 20 new settlements which have recently been built, or are in the first stages of being established. Each of them has between 5 and 20 housing units, and the plan is to increase the number of structures in each settlement to 30. Drobles also submitted a proposal to establish 11 new settlements in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza District, each made up of 15 housing units in the initial stage.

The Alignment's representative on the WZO Land Settlement Department, Prof Ra'anan Weitz, said yesterday that he will firmly oppose the allotment of supplementary funds to set up new settlements in Judaea and Samaria.

Treasury Refuses Budget Increase

TA021353 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT
2 Apr 84

[Text] The Finance Ministry will not allocate any additional funds to accelerate the settlement drive in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip beyond what has been apportioned in the state budget, which has already been the subject of cutbacks. This was made unequivocally clear by senior Treasury officials to our correspondent Gadi Sukenik, who noted that the budget has nothing to do with the election.

Committee Approves New Settlements

TA021500 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1450 GMT
2 Apr 84

[Text] The Ministerial Committee on Settlement Affairs a short time ago approved the establishment of 3 new settlements. The 3 are Ma'ale Levona in Samaria; 'Ali, which is a new communal settlement near Shilo; and Livna, in the southern part of the Hebron hills. Minister Yuval Ne'eman of Tehiya, the chairman of the committee, said that the ministerial committee will continue its activity up to the election and that next week it will convene to discuss settlement plans in the Jordan valley.

Joint Military Exercises With U.S. Planned

TA031005 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
3 Apr 84 p 1

["Exclusive" report from the United States by 'Uzi Benziman]

[Text] Washington — The Israeli and U.S. Armed Forces are expected to hold joint military exercises this month on intelligence and medical evacuation. The maneuvers will be held in Israel, and are supposed to examine the quality of the infrasturcture of joint cooperation between the two countries in these areas.

Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General John Vessey said recently at a meeting of the World Jewish Congress that Israel is a strategic asset for the United States, and that the strategic cooperation between the two countries' armies is constantly progressing.

New Ground Forces Command Established

TA010656 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT
1 Apr 84

[Text] The first stage in the establishment of the Ground Forces Command has been completed. Major General Dan Shomron has completed the transfer of the commands of the four combat corps under his direct command. As of this morning all aspects of training of the field corps are also transferred from the General Staff Military Training Department to the Ground Forces Command. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports:

[Begin recording] Despite all the doubts, it looks as though the Ground Forces Command is coming to life. With the completion of the first stage, the paratroopers, infantry, tank corps, artillery and engineers corps are under the command of Maj Gen Dan Shomron, in everything that concerns building, training, and equipping the force. The new command will operate as a land force in all matters. As of this morning all aspects of training of the combat units are transferred from the General Staff's Military Training Department to the Ground Forces Command, and this includes the budget and equipment. The issue of passing the authority from the General Staff to the new command was subject to debate. Today, after the completion of the first stage, it looks as though Maj Gen Dan Shomron is making progress on this matter also. The development of weapons systems was transferred from the Research and Development Branch to the

new command. A decision has been made to transfer the budgets of equipment and weapons development, and various powers will also be transferred to Maj Gen Dan Shomron from the General Staff branches in the coming months. Discussions are currently underway to gradually transfer authorities from the Intelligence, Manpower, and Logistics Branches to the Ground Forces Command. It looks as though over the next working year the Ground Forces Command will stand on its own feet and operate as a branch in all matters. [end recording]

IDF Fiscal Plans Include Lebanon Deployment

TA020742 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 2 Apr 84 pp 1,2

[Report by defense affairs correspondent Hirsh Goodman]

[Excerpts] In its work plan for the new fiscal year the Israel Defense Forces is taking into account that it will still be deployed in Lebanon, though along different lines and with fewer men in active service over the border.

The new deployment will probably keep Israel's forces at current strength in the eastern sector, where they face the Syrians, but will allow for a massive pullback of forces from the western sector in the coming months.

Security arrangements for this area will be taken over by the South Lebanon Army of the late Major Sa'd Haddad, which will double in size and be given new equipment to combat any local threat.

The work plan for the new year, which began yesterday, calls for an average of 45 to 50 days duty for all reservists, down from the 60 days last year, but more than the 37 days permitted in non-emergency situations.

Under pressure from a shrinking budget, the IDF will be forced to spend less on training programmes. But this will be done by going over to increased simulation, and cutting the amount of live ammunition used in exercises, and not by decreasing the time units will spend training.

Major development projects will not be cut. In fact, military sources say more will be spent on research and development by the IDF this year in real terms than in previous years, though not nearly as much as had been planned before the budget was cut.

The IDF will continue to lay off both professional soldiers and civilians who work for the defence establishment during the coming year. But sources have told *THE JERUSALEM POST* that there is considerable difficulty in meeting the goal of laying off 4,000 people in the next two years.

The standing army will be kept at its present size, though there will be a new mix of units deployed in the field at any one time. Certain units have been withdrawn from service, while new units, like the recently reestablished Giv'ati Brigade, will be built up.

Shots Fired at IDF Convoy in South Lebanon

TA021857 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1847 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Southern Lebanon, 2 Apr (ITIM) — One terrorist incident was noted today in Lebanon. At 1700, light arms fire was aimed at a convoy of military vehicles moving south of the village of 'Adlun. There were no casualties. IDF forces have begun combing operations.

IDF Kills Lebanese Resident Near Tyre 2 April

TA030955 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 3 Apr 84 p 1

[Report from the north by Menahem Horowitz]

[Text] A southern Lebanese resident was killed yesterday afternoon by bullets fired by an IDF soldier. Fire was directed at an IDF convoy travelling 10 km north of Tyre yesterday, but the light arms fire did not hit anyone. The soldiers in the patrol returned fire, killing a southern Lebanese inhabitant who was passing by. The IDF is searching for the terrorist squad that fired at the convoy.

IDF Spokesman on Alleged Lebanese Assassination Plot

TA021901 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] A man captured by the Al-Amal Muslim Shi'ite militia says he was paid by Israel to assassinate a well-known Shi'ite clergyman. Speaking to reporters at the Al-Amal headquarters in Beirut, ('Ali Kamil Bishri) said he and three other members of the south Lebanese national guard militia had been paid to kill Shaykh Raghib Harb, who sympathizes with the Islamic revolution in Iran. (Bishri) claims he was sent by the Israeli military governor of the An-Nabatiyah area. The army spokesman says he knows nothing about the incident.

Bi'r Zayt Rector Expresses 'Regret' at Closure

TA021825 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Bi'r Zayt University Rector Dr Gabi Baramki has expressed regret and dissatisfaction at the closure of the university's new campus for 1 month, by order of the military government. He told our correspondent Arye Gus that the closure is a kind of collective punishment for thousands of students who did not take part in the disturbances [in connection with Land Day].

Ports Closed by Merchant Marine Strike

TA030604 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Israel's ports are on strike effective as of now. The merchant marine officers' union has announced that pilots will not bring ships into port or take them out. The union says that the ports will be closed in order to draw attention to the merchant marine situation. Union leaders told our correspondent Haviva

Roger that Israel's merchant marine is slowly dying, the number of ships is steadily decreasing, and the tendency is to employ foreign seamen. Merchant marine officers have stated that they want to urge the government offices to take action and want to meet with the ministers concerned.

Excavation Under E. Jerusalem Waqf Building Halted
TA301200 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
30 Mar 84 p 2

[Report from Jerusalem by Nadav Shragay]

[Text] Religious Affairs Ministry, Director General Rabbi Moshe Salomon announced yesterday that the excavation work at the northern wall in East Jerusalem under the Waqf building on the Temple Mount has been frozen for a number of months now and there is no intention of resuming work there.

The director general's announcement came in the wake of a report in *HA'ARETZ* in which the person in charge of the holy places in the Religious Affairs Ministry was quoted as saying the opposite. The official, Moshe Zellikowitz, said that work would continue.

As may be recalled, the stairs of the Waqf building sank at the beginning of last week. This building is over the excavations area in the northern wall. It transpired that the support work carried out by the Religious Affairs Ministry under the Waqf building will last several months. Following Zellikowitz's remarks to *HA'ARETZ*, very senior elements intervened in the affair in the Jerusalem municipality, and the Interior Ministry and the Religious Affairs Ministry yesterday reendorsed the agreement that only support work, and not excavation work, will continue in the area.

ALGERIA

GDR's Fischer Praises Talks With Bendjedid, Departs

PM301009 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 27 Mar 84 p 3

[APS report: "I Am Very Satisfied With the Results of My Visit"]

[Text] Algiers — GDR Foreign Minister Oskar Fischer left Algiers yesterday afternoon at the end of a 3-day official visit to Algeria. He was seen off by Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, member of the Politburo and foreign minister, in the presence of the two countries' ambassadors and senior Foreign Ministry officials.

In a statement made shortly before his departure, the German minister stated in particular: "I am very satisfied with the results of my visit and with the official meetings I have had with the leaders of the friendly Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria." "The atmosphere was cordial and the exchange of opinions fruitful."

"As you know," he added, "I had talks with His Excellency Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic and FLN secretary general, which were very friendly. We were very satisfied with his great esteem for the level reached in bilateral relations between the GDR and the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria." "We agreed to make even greater efforts to use more intensively the potential which exists for the development of bilateral cooperation to our mutual advantage.

"During talks with my Algerian partners," he continued, "I expressed the great respect which the GDR has for Algeria's constructive activity within the Nonaligned Movement, the OAU, and other international and regional bodies, and for its commitment to a negotiated political solution to the problem of the hotbeds of tension in the world.

"As I leave friendly Algeria, allow me once again to cordially thank my host Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi." "On the strength of this visit we are striving to extend and develop the ties of friendship between our two countries and to extend cooperation in all spheres between the GDR and the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria."

Communique Issued

PM301031 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 27 Mar 84 p 3

[APS report: "Press Communique"]

[Text] The political talks between Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, member of the Politburo and minister of foreign affairs, and GDR Foreign Minister Oskar Fischer continued yesterday morning at the Foreign Ministry. The following press communique was issued on them:

At the invitation of Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, member of the Politburo and minister of foreign affairs, GDR Foreign Minister Oskar Fischer made an official visit to Algeria 24 through 26 March 1984. During his visit Oskar Fischer was granted an audience by President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and FLN secretary general.

Oskar Fischer met with:

— Rabah Bitat, member of the Politburo, and speaker of the National People's Assembly.
— Abderrazak Bouhara, member of the Central Committee and of the Central Committee Permanent Secretariat for Foreign relations.
— Ali Oubouzar, minister of planning and national development.

The talks took place in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding. The two foreign ministers reviewed the state of cooperation between the two countries and agreed to strengthen and develop it in the framework of the Algeria-GDR Joint Commission. The two foreign ministers examined international questions of common interest.

Oskar Fischer invited Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi to make an official visit to the GDR. That invitation was accepted with pleasure. The date will be fixed through diplomatic channels.

Politburo Member Messaadia Returns From Gulf Tour

LD021111 Algiers APS in English 1003 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Algiers 2/04/84 (APS) — M. Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, Politburo member, head of the Central Committee Permanent Secretariat, returned home in the evening at the end of a tour to Gulf countries. M. Messaadia transmitted a message from President Chadli Bendjedid to Arab heads of state.

Talks with Arab leaders were centered on ways of consolidating bilateral relations as well as the examination of Arab and international situation.

M. Messaadia was greeted at the airport by members of the Permanent Secretariat.

LIBYA

SFRY's Admiral Mamula Arrives in Tripoli

LD021314 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Admiral Branko Mamula, SFRY federal secretary for national defense, arrived this morning in Tripoli on a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander in chief of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces, was on hand to receive Admiral Branko Mamula and his accompanying delegation at Mi'itiqa airbase. A number of Armed Forces officers and the Yugoslav ambassador to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and members of the embassy also took part in the reception.

Accompanying the federal secretary for national defense on this visit, which falls within the framework of the existing relations

of cooperation between the two friendly peoples, is a delegation which include the commanders of the various corps.

Meets With Brig Jabir

LD022346 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2015 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] A working session was held this evening in Tripoli between Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander in chief of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces, and Admiral of the Fleet Branko Mamula, federal secretary of national defense in Yugoslavia. The working session was attended by members of the two delegations.

Palestinian Officials Depart After Ceremonies

LD301533 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 30 Mar 84

[Text] Tripoli, 30 Mar (JANA) — Khalid al-Fahum, chairman of the Palestine National Council, Samir Ghushah, secretary general of the Popular Struggle Front, and PLO Executive Committee members Muhammad Khalifah, 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar and Talal Naji, left Tripoli this afternoon after attending the Libyan Arab people's celebrations marking the 14th anniversary of the eviction of British imperialist forces and bases from the Libyan Arab territory.

Foreign Liaison Bureau Meets With Diplomats

LD021555 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Tripoli, 2 Apr (JANA) — The People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison has met with several chiefs of diplomatic missions of the Mediterranean countries accredited to Jamahiriyah.

During this meeting there was a review of the material covered in the important speech delivered by the brother leader of the revolution on the 14th anniversary of the eviction of the British bases from Libya, especially the U.S. military intervention, the deployment of U.S. nuclear missiles in the Mediterranean region, the dispatch of U.S. spy aircraft to some countries of the Arab homeland bordering Jamahiriyah, and the U.S. alliance with the agent regimes in Egypt, Sudan, and Chad against the Libyan Arab people.

The People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison stressed during the meeting the terrorist American threats and provocations against the Jamahiriyah, a matter which could alter the balance of power in the region and alter all strategies if America continues with its blatant threats to the Libyan Arab people.

The People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison has made it clear to the political missions of the Mediterranean countries that the rise of the Union of Arab Republics, noted in the speech of the brother leader of the revolution, has come about as a result of a plebiscite, and that the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah adheres to this union, considers that any reactions within it are internal, and stresses that the rise of the Union of Arab Republics is support for the peoples of the Mediterranean region and world peace.

Numayri Seen 'Purging' Sudanese Armed Forces

LD030850 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0115 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] London, 3 Apr — In a statement they circulated on 29 March in Khartoum, Sudanese national officers and men have affirmed that the regime of the lackey Numayri, which has become totally isolated from the people and now lives under the protection of the American and Egyptian intelligence men, has recently purged the Sudanese Armed Forces of all national cadres and placed these forces under the control of the so-called supreme authority for operations, which consists of American and Egyptian military experts whose task is to supervise the Sudanese Armed Forces and the sorties of the Sudanese Air Force and to command operations against the rebellious south.

The statement pointed out that Numayri has also removed national officers, particularly the low-ranking ones, believing that in this way he can contain the revolutionary march which is moving from the south.

The statement also pointed out that these plotting steps which the lackey Numayri has taken against the Sudanese people have come in the wake of the escalating activities of the rebels in the southern Sudan and their success in liberating wide parts of the area and the joining of large groups of officers and men of the ranks of the revolutionary movement. They have also come following the growing movement of the sectors in northern Sudan and their opposition to the lackey Numayri regime through the escalation of the moves by the political parties, which took the form of mass strikes by judges, mass resignation by doctors, mass strikes by university professors, and strikes by the engineers' sectors and numerous other sectors.

Egypt Said Interfering in Eased Border Crossings

LD030844 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Tripoli, 3 April (JANA) — The Libyan Arab people's authorities last Saturday opened Libyan land borders to Egyptian Arabs working in the Jamahiriyah to enable them to cross into Egypt and visit their relatives without difficulty.

These Egyptians used to suffer much when going to Egypt, as they had to go through international airports, which cost them extra money.

The Libyan Arab passports and customs office at the town of Umsa'id offered all the necessary facilities to these Egyptian Arabs to visit their families in Egypt under the best possible conditions. Yet despite this humanitarian action that was taken in the interest of the Arab people in Egypt, the authorities of the ruling regime in Egypt prevented the Egyptian citizens from crossing into the country to visit their relatives and spend their holidays in their own country.

By this disgraceful act, the Egyptian authorities have increased the sufferings of the Egyptian citizens who crossed the Libyan gates looking with happiness at the prospect of visiting their relatives in Egypt in the easiest possible way. By this disgraceful action, the Egyptian Government has affirmed that it does not work for the good of the Egyptian citizens and that it devotes all its efforts to increasing troubles and difficulties for them.

To deprive scores of Egyptians and their families from entering their country and visiting their people is an inhumane act which detracts from the dignity of the Egyptian citizens and robs them of their natural right to enter their country.

At the time when the Husni Mubarak regime takes such a stand toward the Egyptians' right to return to Egypt to visit relatives, it opens the land of Egypt widely before the Zionists who come in hoards to tour it and to propagate for the Zionist products and desecrate the Egyptian land.

MAURITANIA

Guinea-Bissau Envoy Brings Message to Haydala

AB021730 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Colonel Paulo Correia, Guinea-Bissau's minister of rural development and special envoy of President Bernardo Vieira to Lieutenant Colonel Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, CMSN chairman and head of state, arrived this morning in Nouakchott.

At the airport, where he was welcomed by Dr Loumeidou Ould Wailda, the minister of rural development, the Guinea-Bissau envoy disclosed the purpose of his mission to Mohamed Mahmoud Moktar.

[Begin Correia recording] I brought a personal letter from our president to his brother, the president of Mauritania. The purpose of our mission is also to establish contacts with the head of state and with our colleague, the Mauritanian minister of rural development, in order, for example, to examine the difficulties and questions related to our organization, the West African Rice Development Association. This means that we are on the second leg of our mission. We have already visited almost all the member countries. We have only two more countries to visit, Mauritania [as heard] and Nigeria. [end recording]

Haydala Receives Message From Polisario Leader

AB021545 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] The head of state this morning received in audience Mr Bachir Sayed, member of the Executive Committee and Political Bureau of the Polisario, who arrived in Nouakchott yesterday evening with a message from President Mohamed Abdelaziz for Lieutenant Colonel Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala. [passage indistinct]

After the audience, the Saharan envoy declared that his discussions with the head of state took place in a fraternal and frank atmosphere. [passage indistinct] Mr Bachir also stated that he conveyed to the head of state the greetings and thanks of President Abdelaziz as well as the Saharan people's fraternal feelings toward the Mauritanian people and government. He indicated in this regard that the contacts and consultations between the two countries are ordinary and not unusual in any way. As neighbors and brothers, we have the same preoccupations in the region in both the political and military fields. These exchanges of ideas are aimed at establishing dialogue instead of confrontation and new prospects of solidarity, reconciliation, and construction instead of escalation and foreign interference, he added. Our relations and friendship are not directed against any people in the region and we hope that through our efforts [words indistinct] we will be able to achieve these objectives, he concluded.

SUDAN

Numayri Issues Decree on Wages, Labor Conditions

JN030933 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1800 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Khartoum, 2 Apr (SUNA) — President of the Republic Ja'far Muhammad Numayri issued a republican decree today forming a higher committee under the chairmanship of Dr Hasan 'Abdallah at-Turabi, the president's assistant for foreign policy, in order to revise labor wages and conditions. The decree defined the duties of the committee — specifically, conducting the necessary studies in order to revise the salary scales and the employment conditions of all workers in the central government, the regions, public institutions, higher education, and companies in accordance with the duties, responsibilities, and requirements of their posts, taking into consideration the effects which the implementation of the alms and tax law in September this year will have on the income of the employees. The committee will also propose new means and systems for improving the employees' wages in a way that will reduce the level of inflation. It will also draw up a unified policy to define and revise the wage scales and employment conditions in the various sectors in order to avoid differences between the income of workers in the various spheres. The committee will suggest ways to achieve the financial commitments required to carry out the committee's recommendations.

The republican decree authorizes the committee to look at any dossiers, documents, or statements, and to form a technical committee or committees that will help it carry out its mission.

The decree states that the committee must present to the president of the Republic monthly reports which include recommendations on wage scales and employment conditions, and suggestions on the laws and by-laws. The decree indicates that the cabinet secretariat will assume the responsibilities of the committee's secretariat; that the offices of the cabinet secretariat will be used for the committee's meetings; and that the cabinet secretariat and other competent departments must adopt all measures to implement this decree.

The committee is made up of 11 members. They are Badr ad-Din Sulayman, minister of labor and social security; Ar-Rashid at-Tahir Bakr, the public prosecutor; Ibrahim Mun'im Mansur, minister of finance and economic planning; Muhammad 'Abd

al-Qadir 'Umar, head of the administrative inspection organ; Haydar Muhammad Kabsun, presidential adviser for manpower affairs; Babakr 'Abdallah Ibrahim, secretary general of the alms and tax office; 'Awad (Al-Jayyid) Muhammad Ahmad, minister of state at the president's office; Major General Babakr 'Abd ar-Rahim, secretary of the regular forces SSU committee; Dr Ibrahim 'Ubaydallah, chairman of the employees and professionals union; 'Abdallah Nasr Qanawi, chairman of the General Federation of the Sudanese Trade Unions; and Farah Hasan Muhammad Ahmad, secretary of technical affairs at the cabinet secretariat.

Numayri Urges Doctors To Heed Sudan's Interests

JN021210 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1040 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Khartoum, 2 Apr (SUNA) — In an address to the citizens yesterday through the media, President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri declared his determination to take whatever measures are necessary to defend the entity of the state, maintain security, stability, give reassurance, and repel foreign influence and the infiltration of agents and saboteurs.

In his address, Numayri appealed to the doctors who were loyal to Sudan to place the interests of their nation and people above all other interests, to answer the call of their humanitarian profession, and not to listen to intrigues, lies, and attempts to drive a wedge between them and the people, revolution, and homeland.

At-Tayyib Visits Hospital, Praises Medical Corps

JN022036 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1745 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Khartoum, 2 Apr (SUNA) — First Vice President Major General 'Umar Muhammad at-Tayyib today made an inspection tour of the medical corps, where he visited the General Military Hospital, Families' Hospital, field clinics, operation rooms, and various hospital facilities. He listened to a detailed explanation of the work in the hospital, which receives thousands of citizens daily. He was also reassured of the availability of all types of medicine and medical equipments. He also spoke with many citizens about their sufferings as a result of the doctors' work stoppage.

Following the tour, the first vice president said the medical corps deserves the praise that the president, SSU, Cabinet, and citizens expressed. He said the efforts of the medical corps can only be appreciated by those who attend its work. He added that the services the medical corps are providing have excelled those provided during the battles. He also pointed out that the patients as well as injured soldiers and officers of the Armed Forces who were in the hospital during the doctors' work stoppage took a heroic position. He added that there are no military personnel among the patients in the hospital. His excellency praised that good spirit.

The first vice president affirmed that the situation is reassuring, and said that the officers, NCO's and soldiers of the medical corps are working with high morale and sincerity despite the large number of patients. He pointed out that this situation is a real test of the abilities of the medical corps and its employees, who have proven themselves equal to the challenge. Concluding his statement, he appealed to the doctors to return to work and continue their noble humanitarian duty, and end the great suffering of the citizens. General 'Abd as-Salam Salih 'Issa, commander of the medical corps, praised the first vice president for his visit, asserting that it expresses the political leadership's appreciation for the medical corps' efforts.

University Professors on Strike in Khartoum

JN022017 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Khartoum — Professors at Khartoum University joined the Sudanese physicians in their strike protesting the current deteriorating situation in Sudan. The professors staged a demonstration 2 days ago expressing popular indignation against Numayri's regime and agent policy. In an attempt to oppress these daring manifestations, Numayri threatened yesterday to take suppressive measures against the professors, students, and physicians, accusing them of seeking to undermine order in the country. He also threatened them with execution or life imprisonment if they do not end their strike and reconsider their resignation.

In another development, the Sudanese Popular Liberation Movement said that it waged a new attack on Uwayl in southern Sudan last week, and clashed with the Numayri regime's forces. The attack killed 300 soldiers.

TUNISIA

Jordan's Al-Masri Delivers Message to Bourguiba

LD021323 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] President Habib Bourguiba has received Tahir al-Masri, Jordan's foreign minister, in the presence of Mohamed Mzali, Beji Caid Essebsi and [name indistinct], Jordan's ambassador to Tunis. Tahir al-Masri said that he delivered to his excellency the president a written message from King Husayn connected with current Arab conditions and issues, and their development on the international arena. He added that during the meeting viewpoints on all these topics were exchanged.

Beji Caid Essebsi and Tahir al-Masri this morning reviewed current Arab conditions and assessed the results of the current Arab League Council session and relations between the two countries.

Sees Caid Essebsi, Departs

JN021956 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Tunis — His Excellency Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba received a written message this morning from His Majesty King Husayn. Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri conveyed the message. The message deals with the current Arab situation,

developments in the Palestine cause in the international arena, the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue, and matters related to the 13th Arab summit. Tunisian Prime Minster Mohamed Mzali, Minister of Foreign Affairs Beji Caid Essebsi, and Jordanian Ambassador to Tunis Nabih an-Nimr attended the meeting.

Al-Masri and Essebsi held a meeting reviewing the results of the Arab League Council's 81st session, future Arab moves in the international arena, and bilateral relations. Al-Masri this afternoon visited the Jordanian Embassy in Tunis, inspected its departments, and was briefed on the services the embassy provides Jordanian and Arab citizens.

Al-Masri left Tunis for Amman this afternoon after heading the Jordanian delegation to the Arab League Council's 81st session, and after conveying two royal messages to the Tunisian and Algerian presidents. Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi, Jordanian Ambassador to Tunis Nabih an-Nimr, the embassy staff, and a number of Tunisian Foreign Ministry officials saw him off as he left Tunis.

Information Minister, XINHUA Director Meet

LD021540 Tunis TAP in French 1300 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Tunis, 2 Apr (TAP) — The Tunisian minister of information, Mr Abderrazak Kefi, received in Tunis this morning Mr Mu Qing, director of XINHUA of the People's Republic of China. The latter is currently paying an official visit to Tunisia at the head of a large delegation at the invitation of the Ministry of Information.

At the conclusion of the talks, which focused on various aspects of bilateral cooperation in the field of information, Mr Mu Qing said that he and Mr Abderrazak Kefi together examined practical measures likely to consolidate bilateral cooperation in the field of information, particularly as far as strengthening ties between the journalists of the two countries is concerned.

DJIBOUTI

Hassan, 'Arafat Speak at Solidarity Ceremony

EA030300 Djibouti Domestic Service in Somali 1645 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Excerpts] The National Theatre last night was the scene of a ceremony in solidarity with the Palestinian people. At 2100 the PLO leader, accompanied by the president of the Republic, Alhaji Hassan Gouled Aptidon, was welcomed by Prime Minister Barkat Gourad Hamadou; the speaker of the National Assembly, Abd al-Qadir Waberi Askar; government and parliamentary officials, and many civilians.

Replying, PLO leader, Yasir 'Arafat thanked President Hassan Gouled Aptidon and the government and people of Djibouti for their unconditional and constant support for the Palestinian cause and the legitimate struggle of the Palestinian people. He said: It is a great honor for me to have seen Djibouti nationals fighting on our side in Lebanon at a time when we were not defending Lebanon or Palestine alone, but the entire Arab world. Yasir 'Arafat concluded his speech last night by saying that ship sails are unfurled despite turbulent seas, and we shall all pray in the holy city of Jerusalem.

Alhaji Hassan Gouled Aptidon, who later spoke at the ceremony said: Your Excellency, Mr Chairman, since the attainment of independence on 27 June 1977, the people of the Republic of Djibouti have constantly supported their Palestinian brothers in their fight for a homeland — a struggle which the world community fully (?supports). Although we have not reached the desired goal, it is common knowledge that the issue of peace in the Middle East is intertwined with the creation of a Palestinian state in the occupied territories. Our efforts in this respect, said the president, are still being obstructed by foreign nations with vested interests in the area, as well as by misunderstandings among the Arabs. The Palestinian people are therefore confronted with immense problems.

Addressing an extraordinary parliamentary session this morning, the PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat gave an account of the situation affecting the Arab world in general, with particular reference to the Palestinians.

Referring to the fighting involving the Palestinian fighters, who were supported by leftist movements in Lebanon during the Israeli invasion in (?July) of 1982, he disclosed that the battle raged for 88 days and was thus the longest battle between Arabs and Jews. He said: In this battle and in the battle fought in northern Lebanon against Syrian government troops, the PLO lost more than 82,000 fighters and civilians. During their invasion of Lebanon, the Israelis were using the latest and most lethal U.S. weapons, and in this battle 72,000 people were killed. The PLO leader deplored the Arab silence.

As PLO leader also disclosed that the PLO was afflicted with the most threatening situation ever. The struggle of the Palestinian fedayeen, he said, is a fight for the survival of the Palestinian people and Arab sovereignty. It is the responsibility of every Arab country to [words indistinct] of the Arabs, which is imminent.

Israeli's aggression and imperialist provocation is aimed at dismantling Arab sovereignty thus to create a vacuum for the creation of Arab mini-states based on religious factions, as is the case in Lebanon, 'Arafat said.

Yasir 'Arafat then commended the latest resolution of the Islamic Conference in Casablanca which called for the readmittance of Egypt into the ICO. This, he said, would balance the Middle East situation.

The PLO leader went on to congratulate the fighters from some Arab countries who are fighting side by side with the Palestinian fighters. Our revolution, he said, has a Palestinian face but an Arab heart. It is an example to all liberation movements throughout the world.

Describing the PLO strategy, Yasir 'Arafat said: The war going on in southern Lebanon and the Arab territories illegally occupied by the Jews is a people's war. He said: We shall continue our war against the Israeli troops, who have suffered heavy casualties, which resulted in the resignation of the Israeli prime minister, Menachem Begin. The Palestinian forces will continue to fight. No one can halt the PLO.

The PLO leader concluded his address to Parliament, saying: Our historic battle, in which many gallant people have lost their lives, is not a battle for nothing or a battle we would like to proliferate, but a battle for our children to live in dignity and to bring a legitimate and lasting peace to Palestine.

After the ceremony at parliamentary buildings, the PLO leader, accompanied by the president of the Republic of Djibouti, Alhaji Hassan Gouled Aptidon, and several government officials, left for a tour of Ali Sabih town, where they received a tumultuous popular welcome.

The governor of Ali Sabih region, (H.E. Qayreh), in a speech of welcome to the PLO leader once again stressed Djibouti's relentless support for the people of Palestine. Yasir 'Arafat, he said, is the (?pillar) of the long struggle of the Palestinian people for the past 36 years to liberate their lands.

CHAD

Reportage on Visit of French Prime Minister

Arrives in Ndjamena

AB021403 Paris AFP in English 1102 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Ndjamena, April 2 (AFP) — French Prime Minister Pierre Mauroy arrived today for a one-day visit to Chad, where France maintains some 3,000 troops buttressing the Ndjamena government of President Hissein Habre. Mr Mauroy, who was accompanied by Cooperation and Development Minister Christian Nucci, is scheduled to meet President Habre shortly after his arrival. Later, he will go to Moussoro, about 400 kms (240 miles) north of Ndjamena, to inspect the French troops holding the line against the Libyan-backed forces of former President Goukouni Oueddei who controls the north of the country.

Mr Mauroy and Mr Habre will meet a second time before the French premier's departure later in the day. Mr Mauroy was met at the airport on arrival from Gabon after a two-day visit by the Chadian Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development Djidingar Dono Ngardoum, the French ambassador to Chad, Claude Soubeste, and the commander of the French forces in the country, General Jean Poli.

Chad's information minister, Mahamat Soumailia, last week said the visit of Mr Mauroy was an expression of French support for the Ndjamena government in the Chadian civil war. France sent troops and war materiel to Chad last August following Libyan bombardments of Faya Largeau in the north of the country. Last February, the French external relations minister, Claude Cheysson, said that French forces would leave Chad "as soon as the other foreign force (Libya) has withdrawn and conditions are arranged so there will be no civil war." Ndjamena has complained that France's military aid was too little to allow the Habre government to recover the territory occupied by the forces of Mr Goukouni, who was ousted as president in a coup led by Mr Habre in June 1982.

Meets With Habre

LD021548 Paris Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Pierre Mauroy is optimistic about a French-Gabonese reconciliation. He stated a short time ago that the misunderstandings between our two countries were cleared up during his official visit. Paris has agreed in principle to supply Libreville with a nuclear power station.

Pierre Mauroy is now in Chad. He met President Hissein Habre for just over an hour. This meeting, the first with a French head of government for 7 years, is reportedly an occasion to plead in favor of further efforts at national reconciliation. It is said by diplomatic sources that Paris reportedly wishes to extricate itself from the sands of Chad without running the risk of creating a military vacuum, a vacuum which might lead to the annexation of the whole country by Libya.

Visits Red Line

LD021616 Paris Domestic Service in French 1600 GMT 2 apr 84

[Text] Pierre Mauroy continues his mini-tour of Africa, arriving in Chad this morning. He had an hour-long conversation with President Hissein Habre before going to a French garrison situated near the Red Line which cuts the country in half. The prime minister arrived there by helicopter accompanied by General Poli, who commands the 3,000 French soldiers deployed in Chad.

Hissein Habre Speaks of Visiting South

LD021545 Paris International Service in French 1245 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Among the difficulties encountered by the Chadian regime, there is the situation in the departments in the south of the country, where the administration of the capital has seemed to be seriously questioned in recent months. It has even been asserted that forces hostile to Hissein Habre's regime,coming from the north, had [word indistinct] a military penetration in the southern sector. Two government missions have just stayed for a considerable length of time in this part of the country where the situation has been normalized and where President Hissein Habre intends to go soon. At least this is what he said a few days ago, speaking to Charles Lescaut:

[Begin recording] [Habre] Without doubt, throughout Chad events occasionally occur, but I do not believe that there is disruption in the south. The mission that was sent into the south has accomplished an excellent piece of work, and today, I must say that, apart from a small pocket, reconciliation has become effective in the south of the country. To give just one example: This year we have experienced an exceptional cotton harvest. We are approaching 140,000 metric tons, a figure that has exceeded all expectations. And I would say to you could we have achieved this together, if there were these troubles that are being spoken of abroad?

[Lescaut] Do you intend to go to the south soon?

[Habre] Indeed it is a plan close to our hearts and we are working on this. I am, in fact, thinking of making a tour in the south in the coming months. [end recording]

It should be remembered that President Hissein Habre has never been to the south of his country.

GUNT Releases Belgians Captured in January

AB030620 Paris AFP in English 1853 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Paris, April 2 (AFP) — A Belgian doctor and nurse captured in Chad in January by the forces of ex-President Goukouni Oueddei were released today in Tripoli, Libya, a spokesman for Mr Goukouni's ousted Transitional Government of National Unity (GUNT) said here. The two, Christian Delzenne and Marie-Chantal Roekens, were working for the humanitarian organisation "Medicins Sans Frontieres," when

they were taken prisoner in an attack by the GUNT forces on a Chadian Government post at Ziguey, 230 kms (about 150 miles) north of Ndjamena. They were handed over to a Belgian parliamentary delegation, the GUNT spokesman said.

Earlier, GUNT spokesman claiming to be speaking from Bardai, in the extreme north of Chad where the Goukouni forces have a base, said the two were being freed unconditionally. He went on: "We ask all international humanitarian organisations operating on the ground to request their staff to desist from giving assistance to the enemy. In future, if we come across this kind of personnel on the front with the enemy, they will be considered a mercenary and treated as such."

The Libyan-backed GUNT forces have taken a hold on the north of Chad since the forces of Hissein Habre, who now have French backing, ousted Mr Goukouni from the capital Ndjamena in June 1982.

Bardai Reports GUNT Communique on Clashes

AB022010 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 2 Apr 84

[War communique issued by the general headquarters of the National Liberation Army [ANL] on 2 April 1984 in Bardai — read by announcer]

[Text] 1. On 26 March 1984, two clashes with the FAN were recorded at Faranga in the Kachkach region.

Results are: on the side of the ANL: 1 dead, 1 wounded; on the side of the FAN: 15 dead, 2 vehicles damaged, 3 AKM's captured.

2. On 28 March 1984, a mine placed by an ANL commando 15 kms from (Lafaget) destroyed a transport vehicle and killed 6 persons and wounded 10.

3. On 29 March 1984, three clashes in the (Goshedda) region between ANL commandos and the FAN were reported.

Results: on the side of the ANL: 2 wounded; on the side of the FAN: 12 dead, some documents seized.

4. On 28 March 1984, there was a clash between ANL commandos and the FAN in the (Far Aloum) region, west of (Gentiman).

Results: on the side of the ANL: one dead, three wounded; on FAN side: five dead, five weapons captured. While withdrawing after the clash, FAN elements tried to regroup 65 kms from (Gentiman) and 8 were killed and 18 wounded. A mine damaged a vehicle between (Biltine) and Mongo.

In the Tiable sector, there was another clash between the ANL commandos and the FAN. Results: on the side of the ANL: 4 wounded; FAN side: 15 dead and several wounded.

The morale of the ANL commandos is very high.

Bardai Says Explosion Causes 'Panic' in Ndjamena

AB021956 (Claestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] What happened between Friday night a Saturday morning in Ndjamena? According to our permanent correspondent, the firing of an automatic weapon and a terrible explosion from a (?mortar) woke the people of Ndjamena late that night. Coming from one of the military camps of the national annihilation forces, the firing and the explosion sparked a veritable panic throughout the districts. Several inhabitants of the city and, in particular,persons close to the puppet and neocolonial administration [words indistinct]. According to our permanent correspondent, supporters of the Ndjamena puppet group, who took to their heels, thought it was an attack by commandos of the National Liberation Army. (?There was disorder) in the city throughout the morning and a statement had to be broadcast on the FAN radio to appease and convince the runaway people and urge them to return home. For our part, we say that this is only a premonition and not yet the entry of the liberators in Ndjamena.

CONGO

Day of Mourning Declared for Sekou Toure

AB300830 Dakar PANA in French 1245 GMT 29 Mar 84

[Text] Brazzaville, 29 Mar (ACI/PANA) — Friday has been declared a national day of mourning in Congo following the death of Guinean President Sekou Toure. This decision was made after the weekly Cabinet meeting held on Wednesday under the chairmanship of the Congolese head of state, Colonel Denis Sassou-Nguesso. The Cabinet chose the minister of foreign affairs, Pierre Nze, to represent the People's Republic of Congo at the funeral of this illustrious son of Africa. In the condolence message sent to the Guinean prime minister on Tuesday, 27 March, President Denis Sassou-Nguesso said: The Congolese people will remember for a long time to come the stirring speech President Sekou Toure made in Brazzaville on the eve of the Three Glorious Days of August 1963.

These Three Glorious Days of 13, 14, and 15 August 1963 are those of the Congolese revolution that toppled the regime of President Fulbert Youlou. Political observers think that President Sekou Toure's speech in Brazzaville stimulated the trade unionists and the Congolese people who a year later ousted the neocolonialist regime of Father Fulbert Youlou.

The message of the Congolese head of state adds that if the ups and downs of the struggle have sometimes made us take different paths, they have never separated us and have emphasized the solidarity that has always prevailed in relations between Congo and Guinea.

GABON

Reportage on Visit of French Prime Minister

Talks Held With Bongo

AB011115 Paris AFP in English 1051 GMT 1 Apr 84

[Text] Libreville, April 1 (AF) — Talks between visiting French Prime Minister Pierre Mauroy and Gabonese President Omar Bongo, aimed at improving relations that had worsened dramatically last year, took place in a "fairly warm" atmosphere, French sources said here today. Mr Mauroy's main purposes in visiting Gabon were to smooth over President Bongo's complaints that he was getting a bad press in France while the authorities in Paris gave free rein to his exiled opponents.

Both sides were today playing down a new incident last Friday when the pilot of a French aircraft scheduled to bring Mr Bongo home from the Guinean capital of Conakry refused to take the controls on the grounds that his agreed-upon working hours had expired. An Air Guinea plane was hurriedly chartered, but President Bongo was several hours late arriving in Libreville.

Mr Mauroy called the incident "unacceptable" and demanded an explanation from the French UTA company, which had hired the plane to the Gabonese Government. UTA apologised and promised an investigation.

Gabonese annoyance at France surfaced last October with the publication of a book, "Affaires Africaines," by journalist Pierre Pean, which exposed the controversial history of relations between Libreville and Paris, and President Bongo's methods of government.

French press and state television gave wide coverage to the book and to the activities of the exiled opposition Movement for National Recovery (MORENA).

Mr Mauroy's delegation includes Michele Cotta, who chairs France's broadcasting supervisory body. She also had talks with President Bongo today, but Mr Mauroy told his hosts that there was a right of free expression in France which did not involve the government.

French sources said that President Bongo had said he could understand criticism of his policies but could not accept that he himself or his family should be attacked.

No information filtered out of the hour of talks yesterday between President Bongo and Mr Mauroy, who is the most senior French official to visit Gabon since relations worsened dramatically six months ago.

Three close advisers of President Francois Mitterrand preceded him, and the last, African Affairs [title as received] Guy Penne, brought an invitation to President Bongo to visit France. The Gabonese leader reportedly said he would go if the invitation were repeated by someone of sufficiently high rank.

Mr Mauroy told his hosts this weekend that French aid to Gabon would continue as long as Libreville wished it. France is Gabon's most important trading partner, as 25,000 French citizens live in Libreville and 70 percent of foreign investment in Gabon is French.

In an interview published yesterday by the Paris newspaper *FRANCE-SOIR*, President Bongo said that if "the faction which insults Gabon prevails in France, I will send the French home," and he stressed the importance of Gabon's links with France.

Sources said that in talks yesterday President Bongo had repeated his determination to have a nuclear power plant in Gabon, which is a major oil producer, in spite of an unfavourable technical feasiblity study.

A further study is to be made on possible sites for the plant, which French sources said raised no objection in principle in Paris.

Further on Talks

AB020745 Paris AFP in English 0720 GMT 2 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Libreville, April 2 (AFP) — Gabonese President Omar Bongo Sunday formally ended his tiff with France over its refusal to ban a book attacking his regime and called for greater Franco-Gabonese cooperation despite the "misunderstandings" of the past.

Mr Bongo, (?head of the) the oil, uranium- and manganese-rich former French colony for the past 17 years, said before a dinner in honour of visiting French Premier Pierre Mauroy that Gabon's close ties with France could not lightly be interfered with.

Relations between Paris and Libreville became strained six months ago when the French Government refused Mr Bongo's request to ban publication in Paris of a book, "Affaires Africaines" by Pierre Pean, alleging rampant corruption under Mr Bongo's rule.

Mr Bongo said Sunday that the period of "misunderstandings" was now over and there were no (?more problems) between France and Gabon.

In reply, Mr Mauroy, who is here for a two-day visit as part of a West African tour, pointed out that the French Government was not "all-powerful" and had not interfered with "what had taken place" within the framework of "the laws of democracy." Mr Mauroy said later that Mr Bongo would "probably" go to France next September in response to French President Francois Mitterrand's invitation.

'Large Amount of Oil' Discovered off Port Gentil

AB302100 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 0630 GMT 30 Mar 84

[Text] The Tenoco Oil Company, leading member of an oil consortium, announced yesterday that a large amount of oil has been found off the coast of Gabon. The company said that the prospecting drilling gave a daily flow of 2,400 barrels of oil with

a specific gravity of 26 percent from an oceanic depth of 2,630 meters. The drilling took place at about 50 kilometers from Port Gentil — the economic capital of Gabon — in an area where the oceanic depth is about 50 meters. Tenoco has 50 percent shares in the consortium, (Cocomnu) Petroleum Ltd, 25 percent, and Lasmo-London and Scottish Marine Hall, 25 percent.

ZAIRE

Mobutu, Nyerere Hold Talks During Stopover

AB011415 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1206 GMT 1 Apr 84

[Text] Kinshasa, 1 Apr (AZAP) — The plane flying President Julius Nyerere back from Conakry, Guinea, where he attended the funeral of Guinean head of state, Ahmed Sekou Toure, made a 1-hour refueling stopover on Saturday at the Ndjili Airport, Kinshasa.

MPR founding chairman Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko held talks with his Tanzanian counterpart at the airport's VIP lounge on matters of bilateral and African interest. Even though the Tanzanian head of state declined to make any statement to the press, observers believe that he briefed his Zairian counterpart on the exchange of views that he made with his other African counterparts in the Guinean capital on the prospects for the holding of the 20th summit of the OAU. President Julius Nyerere left Kinshasa at 1220 for Dar es Salaam.

ROK Deputy Minister Arrives for Talks

AB021300 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1200 GMT apr 84

[Text] Kinshasa, 1 Apr (AZAP) — Shin Chong-sop, ROK deputy minister of foreign affairs, arrived in Kinshasa on Sunday morning at the head of his country's delegation to the deliberations of the ROK-Zaire Joint Commission scheduled to be held on 1-5 April 1984. The program of the Korean statesman's visit to Kinshasa also includes courtesy calls to Zairian authorities, especially the state commissioners for foreign affairs and international cooperation, economy, industry, external trade, and planning. The Korean delegation was met on arrival at the Ndjili International Airport by Lengema Dulia, secretary of state for international cooperation, the ROK ambassador to Zaire, and Citizen Gambeni, the chief of protocol in the department of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

Parliamentary Relations With Israel Discussed

AB300752 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1717 GMT 29 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Kinshasa, 29 Mar (AZAP) — The parliamentary relations between Zaire and Israel dominated the talks Citizen Kisanga Kabongelo, first parliamentary secretary of the Legislative Council, held on Thursday at the national palace with Shlomo Avital, counselor at the Israeli Embassy in Kinshasa. Mr Avital pointed out to the press after the audience that contemplated cooperation will mean constant contacts between the Legislative Council and the Israeli Knesset (parliament).

GUINEA

Army Seizes Power Week After Death of Sekou Toure

Proclamation Read Over Radio

NC030736 Paris AFP in English 0735 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Dakar, Senegal, April 3 (AFP) — The army seized power in the West African state of Guinea today, one week after the death of the late President Ahmed Sekou Toure, according to Radio Conakry in a broadcast monitored here. The announcement took the form of a proclamation read over the radio.

Military Committee Announcement

AB030838 Conakry Domestic Service in French 0645 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Military Committee for Redress announcement; announcer not identified]

[Text] People of Guinea, it was with great fervor that you just laid to rest one of your eminent sons to whom Africa and the whole world made a point of paying a deserved tribute. The immortal work of Ahmed Sekou Toure was that he led our country to national independence and that he ensured in Africa and on the international scene the radiance of your noble ideals and aspirations.

However, although on the international field his work was crowned with success, this was not the case within the country where, under the influence of some of his dishonest comrades-in-arms and under the feudal pressure of his family, your hope of witnessing the creation of a more just and equitable society fled very early, swept away by a bloody and merciless dictatorship that brushed aside your bright hope.

Today, although you have not yet even dried your tears, a fierce struggle for his succession has started among his companions whose hands are still soiled with the blood of innocent people. His companions, who are thirsty for power, are guilty of the generalized corruption of the government and its institutions.

Your national army — which has always remained faithful to you and which has always shared your lot in discipline and self-sacrifice during these 26 years of painful pilgrimage — has therefore decided to take over the administration of the country in order to create the basis for a veritable democracy and thus avoid all personal dictatorship in the future.

We must here bow very respectfully to the memory of all the worthy sons who, throughout these 26 years of our independence, lost their lives simply because they wanted to express their opinions on the country's future. We firmly promise that these martyrs will be rehabilitated and immortalized in our history.

In the meantime and until further notice, the following measures enter into immediate effect:

All party organs are dissolved.
The constitution is suspended.
The national assembly is dissolved.
All mass organizations are banned.
The airports and borders are closed to all traffic.
Public gatherings are forbidden.
A curfew from 2200 to 0600 is imposed throught the country.

The commanders of military zones are appointed general governors of their provinces and are requested to appoint military governors for the regions under their care. They must also ensure coordination between the security services — police, gendarmerie, customs service, guards, militia and the Army — to help establish the new administration. The Military Committee for Redress feels it has only done its duty. It calls for the sense of discipline and order that has always characterized our people in order to avoid any acts of violence against any citizen.

While it assures the people of its determination to forever ban from the country corruption, cheating, despotism, and demagogy and to implement at last the motto of our emblem: work, justice, solidarity. [sentence as heard] It must be understood that each citizen should remain at home today. There will be no work, no market, no circulation. Long live the glorious people of Guinea! Long live the republic!

Announcement 'Favorably' Received

AB031136 Conakry Domestic Service in French 1122 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] You are listening to Radio Conakry. It is precisely 1128 GMT [as heard]. A Military Committee for Redress took over power this morning in Conakry. This news which was announced in a communique broadcast on the radio, was favorably received by the people of Conakry who did not hesitate to demonstrate their joy. Our reporters presented their microphones to the joyous crowds. [indistinct shouts of joy mostly from children heard for 2 minutes]

Communications Suspended

AB031142 Paris AFP in French 1033 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Dakar, 3 Apr (AFP) — Telephone and telegraphic communications with the outside world have been suspended in Guinea where a "Military Committee for Redress" (CMR, of which nothing is known yet) seized power on Tuesday morning, 1 week after the death of the former Guinean president, Ahmed Sekou Toure.

Several attempts made in Dakar on Tuesday to enter into telephone and telex contact with Conakry, the Guinean capital, were in vain.

The Guinean radio is continually broadcasting martial music broken with the CMR's proclamation in French and the national languages.

At the moment, it is unkown who is behind this coup d'etat, the first to take place in Guinea since the country attained indepen-

dence on 2 October 1958. Also not known is what has become of the former Guinean rulers, particularly Lansana Beavogui, the prime minister and head of the government and supposed successor of President Sekou Toure, who was to preside today over a meeting of the Central Committee of the "Guinean Democratic Party" (PDG) and of the National Council of the Revolution (CNR, the highest decisionmaking body between two congresses of the PDG) and Damanting Camara, speaker of the Guinean People's National Assembly, who also was to preside today over a meeting of the Supreme Constitutional Assembly.

Second Communique Issued

AB031210 Conakry Domestic Service in French
1145 GMT 3 Apr 84

["Second communique" issued by the Military Committee for Redress]

[Text] People of Guinea, peoples of Africa, peoples of the world: Today, 3 April 1984, the Guinean Armed Forces — the Army, Air Force, Marines, Gendarmerie, Police, Customs Service, Militia, and Republican Guards — in response to the call of the Guinean people assumed responsibility for the country's destiny without bloodshed and in complete calm and popular enthusiasm. The Military Committee for National Redress [title as heard], the present ruling body:

1. Affirms its complete support for the charters of the United Nations and the OAU and for the principles of nonalignment;

2. Hopes for friendly cooperation with all countries in the world and especially for fraternal cooperation with the African countries within the framework of the realization of the noble ideals of freedom, dignity, and African solidarity which have always been defended by the courageous people of Guinea;

3. Respects the terms of all agreements concluded with all the countries of the world;

4. Orders as of today the release of all political detainees arbitrarily deprived of their natural right to freedom and social justice.

[Issued by] The Military Committee for National Redress

Message From Moroccan Minister

AB031249 Conakry Domestic Service in French
1233 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] The Military Committee for National Redress [CMRN] has already received a first message. It is from the Moroccan transport minister now on a mission to Guinea. The message is as follows: Share the people's opinion and support the Guinean people. Is not for one man, but for the Guinean people. [sentence as heard]

The message was forwarded by the Coordinating Committee of the Conakry No 1 District.

Name of New Leader Reported

AB031511 Lagos International Service in English
1430 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Excerpts] A military coup has been reported in Guinea. This was announced in a radio broadcast in Conakry. In a statement, the new military administration announced the dissolution of the Democratic Party of Guinea, PDG, and the Guinea National Assembly. The new leader is General Toyah Conde.

Absence of Resistance Noted

AB031415 Dakar Domestic Service in French
1300 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Excerpts] A military coup d'etat took place in Guinea this morning. I ask you to listen to Seck Sylla in Conakry:

[Begin recording] A Military Committee for National Redress has seized power in Guinea. The news was announced by a communique read over Radio Conakry by an army captain. The operation took place without bloodshed.

The army is in control of all strategic points in the capital, especially the national radio and television station and the post and telecommunications departments.

There was no resistance on the part of the people. The army decision was a unanimous one. The Conakry airport is closed until further notice. Communication with the outside world is forbidden. The composition of the new government is not yet known. What must be noted is that no shot was fired. The calm of the people in the face of the new situation demonstrates popular support. [end recording]

IVORY COAST

Mauroy Talks With President Focus on Economy, OAU

AB021248 Paris AFP in French 1208 GMT 31 Mar 84

[Text] Abidjan, 31 Mar (AFP) — Shortly before he left Abidjan for Libreville, French Prime Minister Pierre Mauroy stated on Saturday that France was present in Chad because that country's border had been violated by Libya and because through its presence Paris wanted to "uphold the principle of the inviolability of states' borders."

Mr Mauroy, who was answering questions by Ivorian journalists at a news conference at the Presidential Palace in Abidjan, stated that it was "essential that state borders be maintained." "Those who violate them commit acts of aggression not just against one country but against all African countries because they jeopardize the stability of the countries," he added.

Mr Mauroy expressed the view that there can be no "military solution" to the Chadian problem and that it is incumbent upon Chadians themselves to settle their own differences. He expressed the hope that the upcoming international meetings which will examine this issue will result in a settlement.

Referring to his talk on Friday with Ivorian President Houphouet-Boigny, Mr Mauroy disclosed that it was centered on economic problems and the issue of the upcoming OAU summit.

"President Houphouet-Boigny and I have remembered the late President Sekou Toure," said Mr Mauroy who added in substance that the upcoming OAU summit is important for Africa and for France, especially for the Chadian problem. "We banked on President Sekou Toure's support," the French prime minister stated.

"The upcoming OAU summit is an important issue," Mr Mauroy said. We hope it will be held in Conkary, (but) the decision will be made by Africans. The summit will probably be postponed," Mr Mauroy said.

Talking about the French-Ivorian relations, Mr Mauroy described the cooperation between the two countries as "particularly successful." "Abidjan and Ivory Coast do honor to the whole of Africa," he stated.

Concerning the rescheduling of Ivory Coast's debts, Mr Mauroy said that the "Paris Club" (a group of creditors) will hold a meeting in mid-April. He expressed the strong belief that its decisions will be favorable to Ivory Coast. He also told the Ivorian authorities that the "specific demands" made by Ivory Coast will be "met," but he would not elaborate.

Concerning the reduction in the number of French cadres working within the framework of cooperation by 1,000 within 2 years, that is about 30 percent of a total of 3,200, Mr Mauroy stated that France's "mission is not to maintain its assistance personnel in Africa forever, especially in the Ivory Coast, a country which has achieved successes. Ivory Coast is quite capable of having the cadres needed (for its smooth development)." Giving assurances to the cadres affected by this measure, Mr Mauroy added that "they need not fear their return to France. They will be integrated."

Teachers are essentially affected by the reduction measure. Those of them who are full-fledged teachers will face no reintegration problem. For those working on a contract and for assistant teachers, it was learned from the entourage of the prime minister that he intends to speed up the implementation of Le Pors Law (named after the French minister of public service) and that a 5-year reintegration program will take off at the beginning of the 1984-85 academic year. Under the plan, a first batch of teachers will acquire a full-fledged status.

The acquisition of full-fledged status necessary for the reintegration into the public service involves a total of 7,000 French cadres working as teachers in the world.

French Defense Secretary on 'Remarkable' Military Ties

AB021315 Paris AFP in French 1225 GMT 31 Mar 84

[Text] Abidjan, 31 Mar (AFP) — The French-Ivorian military cooperation is "remarkable," and the Ivorian authorities are satisfied with it, Jean Gatel, France's secretary of state for defense, stated on Saturday.

Mr Gatel, who arrived in Abidjan on Friday, immediately held a long discussion with Kean Konan Banny, the Ivorian minister of defense, during which the different aspects of military cooperation between the two countries were reviewed.

The French secretary of state said that the French-Ivorian military cooperation took on three forms: The presence of 480 soldiers from the 43d Infantry Batallion of the Navy [BIMA]; technical assistance by 80 officers and noncommissioned officers; and the training of 235 Ivorians in various French military schools.

Jean Gatel was to visit the Port-Bouet (borough of Abidjan) camp where the French soldiers are based, before leaving the Ivorian economic capital for Ndjamena in the afternoon. He will examine the progress of the French military installation and will visit Abeche, in the east on Sunday. During a trip made 2 weeks ago, Mr Gatel visited two towns in western Chad, Ati and Moussoro.

LIBERIA

Elections To Be Held Between 8 Oct and 8 Nov 1985

AB031305 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] The Government of Liberia has approved the 90-day extension requested by the National Constitutional Advisory Assembly. The assembly's request was further recommended by a special committee set up 1 week ago by the head of state to study the request as the assembly said they needed to publicize the revised constitution.

The approval of the request was announced by Foreign Minister T. Ernest Eastman following a meeting of the Executive Committee and the cabinet with the head of state presiding at the Unity Conference Center today. The government also approved that the ban on politics be lifted by 26 July this year. The government said elections should be held between 8 October and 8 November 1985. [words indistinct] should be held before presidential and vice presidential elections. The cabinet also said it would give counterproposals on presidential and legislative terms and the number of people for representatives. According to the revised draft constitution, there is one representative for every 20,000 people. The draft also has a 6-year term of office for the president and the vice president.

Inauguration Date Set

AB022115 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Excerpts] The government has approved the 90-day extension requested by the National Constitutional Advisory Assembly.

The approval of the request was announced by Foreign Minister T. Ernest Eastman following a meeting of the Executive Com-

mittee and the cabinet with the head of state presiding at the Unity Conference Center today.

At the end of today's meeting, Minister Eastman also announced that the inauguration of the president will be held on the first Monday in January 1986. These were adjustments and approvals of recommendations submitted by the special committee headed by Mr Moses D. Harrie.

NIGERIA

Politicians' Trial To Begin by 'Middle of Month'

AB031555 Dakar PANA in English 1540 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Lagos, 3 Apr (NAN/PANA) — The trial of politicians and public officers detained by the Federal Military Government will commence by the middle of this month, authoritative sources at the Supreme Headquarters and the Federal Ministry of Justice said in Lagos yesterday.

According to sources, the trial will be held simultaneously in centres to speed up the exercise.

The centres are Lagos, Enugu, Kaduna, Jos and Ibadan.

The sources said that members of the tribunal would be sworn in on Wednesday in Lagos by the head of state, Maj.-Gen. Muhammadu Buhari.

The NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA [NAN] learnt that the lists of those to be tried in each of the centres were still being compiled. The tribunals will each be headed by a senior military officer.

The sources said that three decrees — public officers and other persons protection, robbery and firearms special provision, and banking (freezing of account), had been forwarded to the Supreme Headquarters for final approval.

RSA-Mozambique Pact Must Be Viewed Objectively

AB021245 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Although the recent nonaggression pact between racist South Africa and Mozambique has been described as a victory over the forces of violence and militarism, it has no doubt created a dilemma for the OAU. This is because the continental body has a standing policy that there should be no dialogue between member states and the racist South African Government. The criticism that Mozambique has betrayed the African interest by hobnobbing with the apartheid regime is a sweeping assumption which must be critically reviewed.

For some time now, the Mozambique National Resistance rebels have been using South Africa as a launching pad in their subversive activities against their own motherland. With the open connivance and encouragement of South Africa, they have successfully compounded Mozambique's economic difficulties by waging an atrocious war in the hinterland which has paralyzed agricultural production to the detriment of the country's economic progresss. At present, the food situation in Mozambique is alarming and indsutrialists have fled away for fear of being sabotaged by these rebels. All these have made life unbearable for the ordinary Mozambican with its attending effect of a general frustration with the government of the day. It will therefore be naive to ask Mozambique to continue to such a state of economic decline and general insecurity. She must chart a course for her destiny. The [words indistinct] that it is a taboo for any African country to have anything to do with South Africa must be modified when it comes to the frontline states, especially a country like Mozambique, for any rigid adherence to such a policy [words indistinct] countries like Mozambique going down the drain economically, the political consequences of which could be sad to contemplate. The situation of the drowning man, who grabs anything for survival, aptly described Mozambique's relations with South Africa. If Mozambique is to survive politically and economically, then there is need for an equilibrium in the social order of that country for no country can progress in the midst of violence and militarism. The situation where a government wastes all the major resources at its disposal in warding off rebels trying to invade its territory, indefinitely [words indistinct] for economic progress.

This is why the recent nonaggression pact between Mozambique and racist South Africa must be viewed from a more objective angle instead of the sentiments being expressed in some quarters. Despite the pact, Mozambique has reiterated her commitment to the independence of Namibia and the eradication of racism. She has continued to maintain her abhorrence for apartheid and the inhuman treatment of Africans by the Pretorial regime. [Words indistinct] Mozambique has woken up to face the reality of her economic situation and her first priority now is how to reconstruct the badly hit economy and being the country back to stability. Nevertheless, it would be foolhardy for anyone to expect her to commit economic suicide to satisfy the political aspiration of Africans, for if Namibia and South Africa were to be fully free today, Mozambique would remain a free sovereign country. The political freedom of these two countries can never be at the expense of the economic suicide of Mozambique. The OAU must now do everything possible to assure Mozambique that she is not being looked upon as a traitor so as not to drive her into the bait of racist South Africa. For any isolation of Mozambique as a result of this treaty with South Africa will surely give the apartheid regime the opportunity it has been looking for to use Africans against Africans.

FMG Working on 'Nuclear Program' for Country

AB301330 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 30 Mar 84

[Text] The Federal Military Governemt [FMG] is working out a nuclear program for the country. Already consultations have begun between government officials and Nigerians experts from different energy fields for the project. The minister of petroleum and energy, Prof Tam David-West, made this known in an interview in Egbong, near Warri, in Bendel state. He said that such experts included those of the Nigerian Academy of Scien-

tists, the Nigerian Association of Engineers, as well as nuclear energy advisers from Europe and the United States.

Professor David-West disclosed that serious work will begin on the project in a few months' time. The minister, who was in Egbong to lay the foundation stone of Nigeria's second petrochemical project, stated that the problem of oil spillage was being looked into with the view of finding a long-term solution.

Minister Unhappy With Media Role in WAI Campaign

AB011322 Lagos NAN in English 1246 GMT 1 Apr 84

[Text] Lagos, March 30 (NAN) — The minister of information, social development, youth, sports and culture, Group Captain Samson Omeruah, said today in Lagos that he was dissatisfied with the role played by some media organizations since the launching of the war against indiscipline (WAI).

Exchanging views with some media executives, the minister said that "cartoons have been flying in some newspapers to debunk and pass off the campaign as a big joke." He also said that "screaming editorials" and write-ups emphasising negative issues capable of killing the exercise, had been pulished. "The media have become so sceptical that they have unconsciously become counterproductive, instead of joining hands with the government to build a better nation," he said.

The minister said that the war against indiscipline would be fought to the end adding that the Federal Military Government had mapped out its strategy for the war. Group Capt Omeruah appealed to the media to direct their minds positively to ways of helping the government to acheive the goals it had set for itself in the war against indiscipline.

The campaign against indiscipline was launched at Lagos by the chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Brigadier Tunde Idiagbon on March 20.

UPPER VOLTA

Security Tightened Following Grain Warehouse Sabotage

AB021049 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0630 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Statement issued by the National Council of the Revolution on 2 April 1984 in Ouagadougou following an attack to sabotage the Upper Voltan National Grains Corporation warehouses — read by Christophe Taba in the studio]

[Text] Following the recent acts of sabotage carried out against the warehouses of the Upper Voltan National Grains Corporation [Ovnacer], some security measures were taken or increased around the sensitive points. In fact, after the fire attempt on the Ovnacer warehouse in [name indistinct], one still remembers that the enemies of the people have succeeded in destroying another Ovnacer warehouse on Thursday, 29 March 1984, in the (Basqoui) area of Ouagadougou, thus registering the second ignoble act within a very short tiem.

The people of Upper Volta were already informed about the various acts of destabilization and other preparations to land [mercenaries] in Upper Volta which are being carried out by reactionaries in the pay of imperialism, by the stateless and adventurers in search of sensation and who find it difficult to admit their total failure against the determination of our people to use every means possible to defend and consolidate their democratic and popular revolution. Once again, the agents of sabotage have shown their subversive and destabilizing character in the so-called strike declared suddenly by the reactionary and irresponsible management of the National Union of African Teachers of Upper Volta in line with the guidelines of their masters. Very quickly, the revolutionary vigilance of the People of Upper Volta unmasked and chased out the strayed strikers who, without any ideals nor causes to defend, actively threw themselves into adventure through mere political and opportunistic calculations. Popular indignation [words indistinct] these impenitent reactionaries and local valets of imperialism decided to cross the rubicon in order to (?camouflage) their failure. Their objectives are clear. By these acts of sabotage, they want to sow fear and panic and disturb the atmosphere of security necessary for the progress and the development of our valiant and militant people.

Through these acts of vandalism, which are committed, especially at well selected and sensitive points, such as the places where grains are sold, they want to starve our people and thereby put them into difficulty. Moreover, this is in conformity with the policy and instructions of Joseph Ki Zerbo who appealed to some countries and outside organizations in order to prevent them from giving their food aid to Upper Volta. Technically, the sbotage carried out on the Ovnacer warehouse in (Basqoui) seems to be the work of professionals. It is a criminal act that calls our attention to the need for vigilance and the strengthening of our security measures. As a result, the militant people of all the provinces are being informed of the following:

1. Surveillance installations, both during the day and at night, are to be established at the most important and sensitive points and special instructions have been issued concerning the conditions of entry into these places. Any person suspected of entering, or who unlawfully enters, or is caught in the act of unlawfully entering these places, or who attempts to sabotage them will be immediately fired upon. Similarly, all saboteurs, whether identified or caught in the act, will be treated the same way.

2. Reminder for the limits of and the instructions concerning the high security areas in the city of Ouagadougou: Some special security areas known as high security areas are established permanently or temporarily where (?special punishments) are reserved for defaulters. In these areas of high security, checks are systematic and strict and movement is very much regulated or formally prohibited, especially at night. For the moment, these include the areas immediately around the Entente Council building, the presidency and the palace where movement is prohibited at night and regulated during the day in certain areas. People living in these areas who have entry cards and invited guests will follow a single and special route. All members of Committees for the Defense of the Revolution [CDR], all militants, all soldiers and members of the paramilitary bodies will be mobilized to

observe, unmask and report any person suspected to be threatening the internal and external security of our people.

In the areas of high security:

1. Roads prohibited during the day: Boulevard de la Republique at the level of the Radio Station and the Entente Council Building; Avenue Bernard Ouedraogo Tigo at the level of the Presidential Palace and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; the road to the west of the presidency and the road around the Entente Council Building.

2. Roads prohibited at night: Avenue General de Gaulle between the University and the Radio Station; Boulevard de la Repubique, Avenue de France, Avenue Bernard Ouedraogo Tigo, Avenue de l'Independence at the level of the Treasury; all the roads around the Entente Council Building; the road around the western side of the Presidential Palace.

3. The night checkpoints are around the following zones: The Rotonde area, the University area, the Presidential Palace area, the Administrative Building, and the presidency of the republic. People living in these areas have three entry and exit points which are as follows.

(1) opposite ONERA [expansion unknown];
(2) opposite the BP filling station at the Yalongo Ouedraogo Hospital;
(3) in front of the Ministry of Social affairs.

Revolutionary vigilance stands in force.

The fatherland or death, we will win!

Issued in Ouagadougou on 2 April 1984.

Sankara Receives SFRY Envoy 30 March

AB302055 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 30 Mar 84

[Text] The head of state, Comrade Captain Thomas Sankara, granted audience this morning to SFRY Ambassador Aleksandar Psoncak who was interviewed by our colleagues from Volta Vision and the press on his talks with the chairman of the National Council of the Revolution.

[Begin recording] [Psoncak] First of all mine was a courtesy call. But we took the opportunity to examine some matters of bilateral relations between our two countries both in the economic and (?political) sectors.

[Question by an unidentified reporter] With regard to the Nonaligned Movement, could you tell us what Yugoslavia's position is at present?

[Psoncak] Well, you know that Yugoslavia is one of the founders of the Nonaligned Movement. We remian faithful to its policy because we hold the view that the movement's policy is the only one which fits most countries in Africa, Asia, America, and Europe. This is because such a policy is consistent with these countries' national interests, and also because it is useful to the whole world as it is aimed at world peace. It sometimes helps the major powers and the blocs which are not always capable of solving their own problems. We know that the movement has limited resources but we must remain undaunted in our struggle for the enhancement of this policy, and of the movement's fundamental principles.

[Reporter] Africa has just lost one of its great sons, that is Comrade Sekou Toure, the Guinean leader. How was the loss felt in the SFRY?

[Psoncak] Unfortunately I cannot give a precise answer to this question because I learned of the death here in your country and I have not yet got in touch with Yugoslavia. But considering the esteem he enjoyed in Yugoslavia, considering our ties with him and with the Guinean people, especially as he had very close ties with the late Marshal Tito. He was a close friend of his and every time they met, their talks were very useful for our bilateral and for international relations. I personally think that this is a great loss for the whole world and for Africa — especially for Africa. [end recording]

Sankara Chairs Cabinet Meeting on Employment

AB311125 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0730 GMT 31 Mar 84

[Excerpts] Yesterday, 30 March, Comrade President Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Council of the Revolution [CNR] and head of state, presided over an extraordinary cabinet meeting from 1200-1400. The deliberations centered on one topic: a policy for the promotion of employment for Upper Voltan cadres. Henceforth, the cabinet will hold extraordinary sessions whenever there are important social problems.

Yesterday's session examined and adopted a draft decree providing for the employment of Upper Voltan cadres by enterprises and companies established in Upper Volta, as well as those which are not established in Upper Volta, but which benefit from state contracts. Under the decree, such enterprises and companies, the turnover of which reached 50 million to 1 billion last financial year, must hire at least four Upper Voltan cadres holding a degree.

During this extraordinary session, Barry Djibril, Vocational school teacher and a minister under the Military Committee of Redress for National Progress, who was suspended, was reinstated.

On the hiring of new teachers to replace those dismissed for their participation in the plot against the revolution, the cabinet which pays great attention to the pedagogical, political, and ideological training of the new teachers, militants of the revolution, decided that the opening and the closing sessions of the training course for these new teachers will be presided over by members of the cabinet and the National Secretariat of the Revolutionary Defense Committees in Ouagadougou, Bobo Dioulasso, and Koudougou beginning today at 0800. Fatherland or death, we will win!

943 New Teachers Undergo Political Training
AB311426 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 31 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Nine hundred and forty-three new teachers today at the People's Hall in Ouagadougou began a course on political training, teaching methods and ideology. This training follows the savage strike launched on 20 and 21 March by the reactionary leadership of the National Union of African Teachers of Upper Volta [SNEAHV]. It will be recalled that this strike, which was aimed at causing social disorders throughout the country, led to the dismissal of several teachers from the civil ser-vice. Conscious of the future of the Upper Voltan youth, the National Council of the Revolution embarked upon the recruitment of teachers who are devoted to the cause of the democratic and popular revolution launched since 4 August last year in our country. The inaugural ceremony of this training, which will last from 2 to 11 April, was presided over by Comrade Emmanuel Dadjouari, minister of national education, arts and culture. Also attending the ceremony were Fidele Toe, minister of labor, social security and civil service, and Comrade Lieutenant Pierre Ouedraogo, national secretary general of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution, and his assistant, Lieutenant Theodore (Yien).

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Leaves for Yugoslavia, Romania Visit

MB030756 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Comrade Jose Eduardo Dos Santos, the chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, left the country last evening for a 4-day visit to the SFRY. The Angolan head of state, who is accompanied by an important party and government delegation, is visiting Yugoslavia at the invitation of Mika Spiljak, the president of the SFRY.

The chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola will thereafter visit the Socialist Republic of Romania, answering an invitation from his Romanian counterpart Nicolae Ceausescu. The 3-day visit by the Angolan head of state to Romania will permit the strengthening of the ties of friendship and cooperation binding the two countries.

Present at the 4 February International Airport last evening to see off the supreme leader of the party and government were members of the Political Bureau, the Central Committee of the MPLA-Labor Party, the government, mass organizations, and the diplomatic corps accredited to our country.

Cunhal-Led Portuguese Communists Arrive, Begin Talks

MB030950 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] A delegation of the MPLA-Labor Party has been holding talks in Luanda since yesterday with a delegation from the Portuguese Communist Party led by its secretary general, Alvaro Cunhal. Speaking to news media at 4 February International Airport, Alvaro Cunhal, who arrived in Luanda yesterday morning, expressed the conviction that the visit would strengthen the ties of friendship between the two parties.

On the anti-Angolan campaign promoted by counterrevolutionary elements in Portugal, Alvaro Cunhal said that the Portuguese information organs [words indistinct] have been promoting such elements through [words indistinct] articles published by the newspapers and read over the microphones of radio stations. In this regard, he reaffirmed that the principles of the Portuguese Communist Party were directed toward solidarity with the peoples fighting for their liberty and independence.

Savimbi Ties Hostage Release to UK Acknowledgement

PM030749 London THE SUNDAY TELEGRAPH in English 1 Apr 84 p 2

[David Graves dispatch: "UNITA Leader in Move on Hostage Britons"]

[Text] Jamba Camp, South-East Angola — Dr Jonas Savimbi, leader of the pro-Western guerrillas of the National Union for Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) yesterday delivered a single condition to the government for the release of 16 British hostages seized by his forces last month, but gave a warning that he would detain them for years if it was not met.

He said all Britain had to do was ask UNITA for their release — but up until now the Government has shunned all contact with the rebels after officially recognising the Marxist Movimento Popular de Libertacao de Angola (MPLA) regime in Luanda.

The Britons, who had been marched and transported by truck more than 600 miles south, after being captured in the northern diamond producing province of Lunda Norte on February 23, were put on public display at an elaborate and spectacular show of UNITA's military strength on Friday.

Senior UNITA officers said the display by 2,000 troops with heavy armour and artillery, at Dr Savimbi's headquarters at Jamba, deep in the Angola bush, was designed to remind South Africa and his other allies not to ditch the rebels in any peace pact with Luanda.

The Britons, all mining technicians, who looked surprisingly well after their long trek, escorted by up to 2,000 guerrillas, sat under armed guard with 117 other Czech, Filipino, Portuguese and Yugoslav hostages to watch the display.

In an exclusive interview, Dr Savimbi, who is Swiss-educated, and who received his guerrilla training in China, said UNITA had repeatedly warned Britain to remove the technicians last year, but they had stayed at work, helping to earn millions of dollars for the MPLA regime, which is backed by a estimated 25,000 Cuban troops, with Soviet and East German advisers.

The bearded rebel leader said: "I will not allow the hostages to leave unless the British Government talks to us. They have to contact UNITA, that is all. Even though we have taken the hostages Britain has said it will never, ever, talk to UNITA. If that is their attitude then the hostages will stay.

"They are in good hands. But if Britain does not talk then we will keep them here for a year or two or for however long it is necessary. The situation between Britain and ourselves is critical.

"Why does Britain, which is an old democracy, have such qualms about talking to UNITA when it rushed to recognise the Marxists in Luanda. It is totally ironic. I would have thought the Conservative Government would be on our side — that is why we were shocked by their attitude.

"Action will continue against British interests in Angola unless they take heed of this warning.

"We are in a state of war and we cannot continue to allow them giving aid and assistance to our Soviet- and Cuban-supported enemy."

Dr Savimbi, 50, said he was particularly angered by the remarks made in South Africa by Mr Rifkind, Foreign Office Minister of State, after a visit to Luanda last year.

He added: "We don't bear any hatred towards the British Government but we took it very badly when Mr Rifkind went on TV and radio and said UNITA was nothing." "We are not saying the British should recognise us and that they should sever their relationship with the MPLA. But they should at least talk to us and find out for themselves what is happening in Angola."

The Britons were among 74 Filipino, Portuguese and Angolan hostages seized by UNITA in a raid on the state-owned diamond mine at Kafunfo, near the Zaire border.

Dr Savimbi said the technicians worked for two British firms, Mining and Technical Services, and INTRACO. He added that all the Filipino and Portuguese hostages would be released as soon as the International Red Cross sent an aircraft to collect them.

UNITA has held 20 Czech technicians hostage since March 12 last year when they were captured in a raid on a wood pulp mill at Alto Catumbela, a small town on the high plateau of central Angola.

The UNITA leader said he thought the Czechs would be released soon because the Czechoslovak Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs had recently had direct talks with the guerrilla movement to secure the release of the hostages.

UNITA Peace Moves Detailed

MB011051 Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 1 Apr 84 pp 1,2

[By Tertius Myburgh]

[Text] Jamba, Angola — In a dramatic move to end the war in Angola, UNITA's Dr Jonas Savimbi has offered to open talks with the MPLA Government in Luanda to form a government of national unity. But the offer by Dr Savimbi, until now the wild card in southern Africa's unfolding peace process, carried a warning: If you try to deal me out, I'll carry on fighting.

In an interview at his headquarters at Jamba, deep inside the south-eastern Angola bush, he expressed admiration for the atmosphere of subcontinental detente being created by the South African Prime Minister Mr P.W. Botha — but he was equally insistent on his right to full participation. He expressed pride in the fact that UNITA had engaged in dialogue with the South African Government long before other black African governments.

After 23 years of lonely guerrilla struggle, the tough and charismatic UNITA leader has built up his forces to a point where he is now demanding a place at the table to resolve the interlocking problems of Angola and Namibia.

At a military rally on a parade ground at Jamba, Dr Savimbi announced that he would launch a major diplomatic campaign to bring about MPLA-UNITA talks. He would send letters to all African heads of state and to the five governments of the Western contact group (the United States, Britain, France, West Germany and Canada). At the same time, however, he would intensify his military attacks on the MPLA, taking the basic war into Angola towns and cities. Last weekend's successful attack on Novo Redondo (Sumbe), the first successful assault on a provincial capital, was the prelude of this campaign, he said.

Later, Dr Savimbi said it would be impossible to expel the Cubans from his country until a deal had been struck with UNITA. "The Cubans are not in Angola because of South Africa," he said. "They are here to keep UNITA at bay and to keep the MPLA in power." "The key, therefore, is to bring the MPLA and UNITA together so that the Cubans can leave."

Dr Savimbi launched his new initiative by inviting senior South African journalists and foreign correspondents to his headquarters, the first such move by the normally secretive and inaccessible UNITA movement.

Sitting in an armchair covered with leopard skin, five of his top advisers by his side, Dr Savimbi confessed in an interview that he had been "caught napping" by the Lusaka meeting between MPLA leaders and the South African foreign minister, Mr Pik Botha, at which the monitored disengagement of South African troops from Angola was agreed. Asked whether he believed there was an intention to cut his movement out of negotiations between Luanda and Pretoria, he said: "This is a delicate situation and I must confess that we were worried." "The first thing we did was to address the problem to the Americans because they are at the center of these affairs and we received an assurance that the objective was not to harm UNITA." Then he added: "We feel there is no sentiment in South Africa for leaving UNITA in the lurch."

He said that among moderate African states — who knew of his eight-year dialogue with South Africa — it would make a bad impression if Pretoria dropped its friendship with UNITA.

"We are not asking South Africa to hang herself for us,"said Dr Savimbi. "But UNITA is the best ally South Africa can have in these parts — and we were the ones who supported dialogue with Pretoria long before anyone else did."

Dr Savimbi, the man who believes he was cheated out of power when the Portuguese left Angola and who has systematically been fighting his way towards Luanda ever since, clearly set great store by this weekend's display of authority and power at what he describes as the provisional capital of Angola.

The South African and other foreign journalists flew in chartered aircraft to an airstrip at Coutade do Mucasso and were then transported to Jamba in captured Czech trucks in a bone-crushing, eight-hour drive along rutted bush tracks.

Weapons captured from the MPLA — troop carriers, tracks, artillery pieces, heavy machine-guns and rocket launchers — were on display at the military rally.

Three companies of neatly uniformed troops, all carrying AK-47 rifles, paraded on a football field carved from the lush forest. The perimeter was festooned with huge posters depicting UNITA's struggle, first against the Portuguese and then against MPLA-Cuban rule.

In his address, Dr Savimbi, wearing camouflage uniform and carrying an ivory-topped ebony cane, said that in nine years UNITA had totally "liberated" one-third of Angola, was able to move at will in another third, and had a presence in the remainder of the country.

He stressed the linkage between the Namibian and Angolan problams by declaring: "If the Cubans are sent packing from Angola, Namibia shall henceforth be free." "However, as long as MPLA fears UNITA, the Cubans will not leave Angola." "Therefore, the independence of Namibia depends upon direct dialogue between UNITA and MPLA."

He urged the governments of Britain and West Germany to "follow the examples of the United States, Portugal and France, who have understood the motives of UNITA's struggle".

The creation of a government of national unity would be transitionary, to be followed by elections.

Dr Savimbi said he did not believe in a one-party state and UNITA would guarantee minority rights in Angola.

UNITA's economic policies, he said, were based on a belief in free enterprise.

At the press conference, which followed a lunch of impala stew and rice (washed down with beer and Tassenberg dry red wine), Dr Savimbi was flanked by UNITA's secretary-general, General Miguel Zau Puna, and other military commanders.

"We have humiliated the MPLA by taking the first provincial capital," he said, adding that he had instructed the commander of the UNITA forces to vacate the city after two days so as not to provide a sitting target for the massive Cuban-led retaliation which followed the fall of the city. Five thousand troops were deployed in UNITA's biggest military action yet.

An intelligence officer said 440 MPLA and 32 Cuban soldiers had died in the battle. UNITA casualties numbered 45.

He said there was a struggle between hawks and doves within the MPLA and that the militants were failing in their promises to defeat UNITA. "The alternative is obvious," said Dr Savimbi.

Repeating his threat to intensify the war, he said: "We have gathered the human and material means and we have set our target. If the MPLA do not talk to us in 1984 or early in 1985, something dramatic will happen."

Elaborating on a statement in his speech to the rally ("The internal winds of political changes in South Africa are blowing, and can be intensified by the attitude of individual African states"), he said the Republic's new constitution represented real progress. "Participation by Indians and coloureds is something and I have heard South African leaders say that it is not the end of the road. It is a start."

Asked about Namibia, Dr Savimbi said: "We are not against independence for Namibia, with SWAPO participating or not. It is not our affair." "It is the duty of South Africa to decolonise the area in a responsible manner — not like the Portuguese did in Angola, where they left the power in the streets."

Were there parallels between Mozambique's and Angola's relations with South Africa? "There is a big difference between the two," said Dr Savimbi. "I don't see a possibility of things moving in the same way as they did with Mozambique. Relations will be good, but different."

Would he support the African National Congress? "I have never been a friend of the ANC," the UNITA leader replied. "I have never had any contact with them."

6-15 Mar Operations Communique

MB010951 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Angola 0430 GMT 1 Apr 84

[Communique issued by Brigadier Demostenes Amos Chilingutila, chief of UNITA General Staff at central base on 20 March]

[Text] In Luanda Province on 14 March, our forces attacked the town of Muxima, located 105 km southeast of Luanda.

In Malanje Province on 12 March, a Ural vehicle detonated an anticar mine on the Luquembo-Quirima road. The dead included Logistics First Lieutenant Mauricio Luis of the 31st Brigade.

In Cuanza Sul Province on 6 March, a vehicle column was attacked on the Benguela-(Chingoroi) road. Seven Ural, GAZ-66, and Mercedes vehicles, and one BTR-152 were destroyed. A total of 27 AK-47 weapons were captured. On 6 March, our forces defeated two People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] companies operating in the vicinity of (Pombal) farm, Quibala. The enemy dead included political activist (Kingaboje).

In Lunda Province on 6 March, the enemy garrison at the bridge over the Cuango River, between Xa-Muteba and Cuango, was attacked. The bridge was subsequently destroyed. The Lovua base, east of Dundo and 36 km from the northern border with Zaire, was attacked on 8 March. The town's power station was destroyed. On 9 March, our forces attacked the enemy base at Capaia, 140 km north of Henrique de Carvalho. The enemy suffered 12 casualties [baixas] and many wounded. On 9 March, a motorized column was attacked on the Nova Chaves-(Cassesse) River, resulting in the destruction of four Ural vehicles. On 9 March, enemy forces of 76th Brigade were defeated by our forces while traveling in the direction of the bridge over the (Luvueje) River, 7.5 km east of Nova Chaves.

In Moxico Province on 11 March, Second Lieutenant (Lutuai Canhama), commander of the 1st Company of the 4th Battalion of the 21st Brigade, was killed in a landmine explosion. The mine was set by our forces at (Cabalo), 12 km south of Leua. The road bridge over the (Ndala) River, 23 km south of Luso on the Luso-Lucusse road, was destroyed on 15 March after our forces defeated the garrison.

In Bie Province on 14 March the enemy battalion No 60 of the 82d Brigade was defeated at the source of the Ingiquila River, south of Munhango, on 14 March. A total of 63 FAPLA soldiers and 10 Cubans were killed, and 73 weapons and 6 FAPLA soldiers captured. A Soviet manned MI-25 helicopter, registration No H-306, was shot down by RPG-7 fire while strafing our forces. The helicopter crashed and all its occupants were killed.

In Cuando Cubango Province on 12 March, a vehicle detonated an anticar mine on the (Xitembo-Mombue) road, resulting in the destruction of the vehicle. A total of 15 FAPLA members were killed, and 12 people wounded.

During this period, 250 FAPLA soldiers were killed and 15 captured. A total of 15 Cubans and 3 Soviets were killed. One helicopter was shot down, and 53 vehicles destroyed. A total of 285 assorted weapons were captured, and 2,200 civilians released. Our forces suffered 19 casualties, 47 wounded, and 12 are missing.

The struggle triumphs. United we shall win.

Issued at the UNITA central base on 20 March 1984, year of the anti-Cuban patriotic front.

[Signed] Brigadier Demostenes Amos Chilingutila, chief of General Staff.

BOTSWANA

President Meets With Opposition Party Leaders

MB021836 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1610 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] The president, Dr Quett Masire, this morning held a consultative meeting with the leaders of the five opposition parties in Botswana. The meeting discussed registration of voters and election procedures and matters of national security. The leaders were Dr Kenneth Koma of the Botswana National Front, Dr Knight Maripe of the Botswana [People's] Party, Mr Motsamai Mpho of the Botswana Independence Party, Mr Daniel Kwele of the Botswana Progressive Union, and Mr Martin Chakaliza of the Botswana Liberal Party.

LESOTHO

National Assembly Passes 1984-85 Appropriations Bill

MB021455 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] The National Assembly this morning passed the Appropriations 1984-85 Bill, which makes provisions for the expenditure of an amount of more than 254 million maluti for the recurrent and development expenditures for the financial year ending on 31 March 1984. The largest amounts in the recurrent budget are about 26 million maluti each for defense and education, followed by agriculture with about 11 million maluti.

The speaker of the National Assembly commended the house for passing the appropriations bill so early in the year, and added that this was the first time after many years in the history of the Lesotho parliament that it dealt with the budget bill so expeditiously.

Information Minister Discusses Elections, New Laws

MB020833 Maseru Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] The minister of information and broadcasting, the Honorable D.T. Sixishe, says the electoral law would put to light the direction that the Lesotho Government would like to run elections. The government has already introduced this legislation.

Speaking at a rally at Qini Ha Mpo yesterday, Mr Sixishe pointed out that the prime minister, the Right Honorable Dr Leabua Jonathan, has introduced the amnesty law under which people who ran away from the country would return home freely. The minister said parliament passed another law on human rights to avoid rumors that he wants to go to the elections alone.

[sentence as heard] He said that under this law every Basotho is free to establish a political party of his choice. He pointed out that the third law is that of establishing Parliament together with the Senate. He said for a person to stand for elections, he should have sponsors of not less than 500 signatures.

Mr Sixishe said that the prime minister has given security measures for every Basotho who would like to stand for elections, and said that Dr Jonathan would seek power to enable each district to be given a day to hold its own elections so that the country's security forces can be able to protect voters from intimidation. The minister said people who have rights to live in Lesotho and Lesotho citizens are the only people who will go for elections.

MALAWI

Blantyre Reports Banda's Dissolution of Cabinet

MB021629 Blantyre Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] His excellency the life president, Ngwazi Dr Kamuzu Banda, has dissolved the cabinet with effect from today. Making the announcement, a spokesman of the Office of the President and Cabinet in Lilongwe said as a result of the dissolution of the cabinet all the ministerial portfolios have now reverted to his excellency the life president.

In another announcement, the spokesman said the life president has been pleased to appoint Mr Chakakala Chaziya as the governor of the Reserve Bank of Malawi with effect from yesterday. The spokesman added: As a result of Mr Chakakala Chaziya's appointment, Mr John Tembo ceases to be governor of the Reserve Bank.

MOZAMBIQUE

Actions Against 'Armed Bandits' in Provinces Detailed

MB010550 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0605 GMT 1 Apr 84

[From the "Armed Forces Voice of Combat" program]

[Text] The number of armed bandits surrendering and deserting has increased as a result of a stepping up in FPLM operations.

Two groups of armed bandits were destroyed as a result of operations carried out by our forces last week at Chemba and (?Timesane) localities in Sofala Province.

As a result of operations carried out by FPLM forces in Zambezia Province, the bandits have been forced to disperse, reaching the border areas of Nampula, where in desperation, they fall prey to FPLM ambushes in that part of the country. In one such action, the enemy, subjected to our gunfire, abandoned corpses, wounded, weapons, and rucksacks on the battleground.

FPLM forces deployed in Manica Province have attacked a number of armed bandits bases in the regions of (Uache), (Guezene), (Macetela), (Chitondo), and (Mazeleze), where many bandits have been killed, wounded or captured. An assortment of equipment was captured, and goods belonging to the people recovered.

As a result of additional battles fought by our forces in the Chibuto and Inhambane regions, a number of bandits have been killed or captured with their weapons. Many head of cattle were recovered.

'Bandits' in Chicudui Surrender

MB021532 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1400 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] A total of 12 armed bandits have recently given themselves up, with their weapons, to our armed forces in the Chicudui region, Manica.

According to a source in the Manica Provincial Military Command in Chimoio, the Mozambique Armed Forces stationed in the Barue district are conducting intensive operations aimed at destroying the armed bandits' bases. Such operations also result in the release of citizens who have been kidnapped by the armed bandits.

Youth Aids Camps' Destruction

MB030822 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0430 GMT 03 Apr 84

[Text] According to the Radio Mozambique regional station in Beira, more than 10 armed bandits' camps have been destroyed since the end of last year by the FPLM in the Nhamatanda district of Sofala Province.

More than 3,500 families who had been kidnapped by the bandits were freed and an assortment of military materiel was captured in the above-mentioned camps. Our regional station in Beira yesterday announced that this action was made possible due to the collaboration of a 14-year-old youth. This youth, who was abducted in January 1983, managed to escape and then guided the FPLM on thier assault on the camps of the armed bandits. Felix John was abducted by the armed bandits from the Amatongas school and served them as a guide, which enabled him to learn the location of many of the camps already destroyed by the FPLM.

Air Force Commander Explains Nkomati Accord

MB310725 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0430 GMT 31 Mar 84

[Text] About 900 people, including members of the party's grassroot organs, mass democratic organizations, the Inhambane committee and provincial assembly, and of the provincial government, took part in a detailed briefing on the meaning of the Nkomati accord, which was held in the afternoon of 29 March. The briefing on the meaning of the nonaggression and good neighborliness accord signed between Mozambique and South Africa was chaired by Major General Antonio Hama Thai, commander of the Mozambique Air Force.

Hama Thai gave the participants a detailed account of the entire process, which culminated with the signing of the accord, stressing that it was the result of an intense campaign carried out by the Mozambique people in the fight against the armed bandits in the various regions of our territory. In his explanation, the commander of the Mozambique Air Force mentioned the Nkomati accord's intended objectives, stating that they are aimed at guaranteeing the well-being of the people.

Cahora Bassa Agreement With RSA To Be Discussed

MB021202 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Mozambique and South African delegations began talks in Maputo today to discuss the texts of an accord and a contract on the Cahora Bassa.

The Mozambique delegation is led by Antonio Branco, minister of industry and power, while the South African delegation is led by Louis Nel, deputy foreign minister. The South African delegation, which includes eight people, arrived in Maputo this morning. A South African Electricity Supply Commission delegation on Friday also visited Maputo, where it held talks with officials of the Mozambique Electricity Authority. It was decided to hold further talks among Mozambique, South Africa, and Portugal on Cahora Bassa during the last tripartite talks in Cape Town about 15 days ago.

Louis Nel, South African deputy foreign minister, was in Lisbon last week for talks with the Portuguese authorities on the Cahora Bassa project.

In this phase of bilateral contacts, the delegations have been discussing the drafts of an accord and a contract. Final texts of both may be submitted to the next tripartite talks to be held in Maputo.

State Secretary Osman Returns From Italy, UK

MB011242 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 1 Apr 84

[Text] Italy is to increase its economic support for Mozambique, according to secretary of state for coal and hydrocarbons, Abdul Magid Osman, who has just returned from a meeting of the Mozambique-Italian Joint Commission. Mr Magid Osman said the commission had discussed agriculture, dams, coal, natural gas, and fishing, and had decided to press ahead with the Corumana dam project, a water project in Maputo Province, and another project in (Chalua), in Nampula Province.

He said the Italian Government had expressed firm support for Mozambique's peace initiative in southern Africa.

Mr Magid Osman also visited Britain, where he discussed the possible participation of British companies in offshore oil explorations, and France and Portugal, where talks concerned a project for manufacturing fertilizers from the Pande natural gas field in Inhambane Province.

Ties Reaffirmed on USSR Friendship Treaty Date

MB021228 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Mozambique and the USSR have reaffirmed in Maputo the strength of the ties of friendship and militant solidarity existing between the two countries and the common desire to develop a fruitful bilateral cooperation.

This position was reaffirmed last Saturday during a reception given by our government on the occasion of the seventh anniversary of the signing of the treaty of friendship and cooperation between the People's Republic of Mozambique and the USSR.

On the occasion, Daniel Mbanze, deputy foreign minister, underlined that the treaty symbolized the effort, dedication, and determination of the parties, states, and peoples from the two countries to achieve social progress and well-being.

Daniel Mbanze also said that he was certain that the peace prospects created by the Nkomati accord opens new possibilities for increasing the scope and value of cooperation between Mozambique and USSR.

MNR Says Zimbabwe's 5th Brigade in Tete Province

MB030817 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] The Renamo Movement in Mozambique says Zimbabwe's North Korean-trained Fifth Brigade has moved into Mozambique's northwestern province of Tete to strengthen Mozambican Armed Forces against Renamo. In a telephone interview with the news agency, UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL, Renamo's leader [as heard], Evo Fernandes, said his forces were being strengthened to fight the Zimbabweans.

He said the Fifth Brigade, which had already achieved notoriety for its alleged brutal counterinsurgency operations against civilians in Matabeleland, crossed the Mozambican border a week ago to defend the main road connecting Mozambique with Malawi and Zimbabwe against Renamo.

NAMIBIA

SWAPO: Linkage of Cuban Withdrawal 'Extraneous'

MB022005 Lusaka Voice of Namibia in English 1830 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Station commentary: "The Washington-Pretoria Theory of Linkage"]

[Text] On 26 March 1984, Radio South Africa went on the air and carried a commentary on the old, irrelevant issue of the Cuban internationalist presence in the People's Republic of Angola. This radio service reflects the official policy of racist South Africa and is also responsible for disinforming international public opinion. For us in SWAPO it is clear that racist South Africa clings onto the Cuban troops' withdrawal from Angola in order to obstruct an orderly transition to Namibia's independence. As a matter of fact, the Cuban presence in Angola has been necessitated by an abortive South African-American military effort to frustrate the advances made by the MPLA in Angola in 1975. Ever since then the Cuban troops are in Angola to defend the country against unwarranted South African aggression. They are in the defensive line, and have never crossed Angolan borders into any neighboring state. Once the threat of South African aggression is gone, there will be no need for the Cubans in Angola.

This will only come about with the implementation of Resolution 435, which will lead to genuine independence in Namibia. The Cuban agreement was reached between two sovereign, independent states — Cuba and Angola — prior to the inception of Resolution 435. The fact is the Cuban forces were present in Angola when the Security Council adopted Resolution 435 in 1978, which contained no reference to linkage parallelism. This puts a dark shadow of doubt on the Americans and apartheid South Africa, who, while professing continued adherence to the UN plan for Namibia, keep on insisting on their withdrawal.

The Cuban linkage is extraneous and irrelevant to Resolution 435. It retards the decolonization process in Namibia, and also constitutes an unwarranted and gross interference in the internal affairs of the People's Republic of Angola. SWAPO has always maintained that it is committed to a political settlement for the Namibian problem. SWAPO is ready to submit itself to the outcome of free and fair elections under the United Nation's auspices. Our position is that unless South Africa agrees immediately to the signing of a cease-fire in Namibia and to the implementation of the UN plan for our country's independence, armed conflict in Namibia will definitely not end. Ours is a

national liberation struggle. Thus, in the absence of a political settlement, we quote the president of SWAPO, Comrade Sam Nujoma, and we quote: We are ready and willing to fight and even die for our freedom and independence, end of quote.

The South African pronouncement also hints at a unilateral declaration of independence for the territory. This had already become clear from the time the latest puppet charade — the so-called multiparty conference — was created last year by Pretoria as an anti-SWAPO front to confuse the masses and to sell out our just struggle. This puppet show has declared itself willing to write the constitution for the territory, something which can only be done by a duly elected constituent assembly after Namibia's independence. The American presence in Namibia is also a clear indication that the racists and their imperialist allies want to sidestep the UN plan for Namibia, and instead try to initiate the sham independence that will only recognized by them. Our stated position is clear in that regard: The Cuban presence in Angola has nothing to do with the UN decolonization in process in Namibia, and should not be used to keep our people hostage.

Our armed struggle will only stop with the signing of a cease-fire between SWAPO and South Africa, and the implementation of Resolution 435. Finally, the bogus independence that will only be recognized by South Africa's Western allies should not deter the oppressed but struggling people of the Namibian masses under the dynamic leadership of SWAPO to wage their just struggle for national independence and human dignity and genuine freedom till its final conclusion.

SOUTH AFRICA

3 People Killed in Durban Car Bomb Explosion

MB030723 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0700 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] A car bomb has exploded in Durban. First reports say several people have been killed. Carmel Rickard is on the scene.

[Rickard] At least three people have been killed in a car bomb explosion which went off just after 0730 on the corner of Stanger Street and the Esplanade. The site is opposite the building housing the South African Indian Council. According to Durban's police public relations officer, (Pieter Meiring), a number of people have been taken away by ambulance and the death toll is expected to rise. The scene was chaotic as police tried to clear away onlookers. Glass and other debris is littering the street, as are several cars damaged in the explosion. [words indistinct] possible further explosions. It is impossible to tell what kind of car was involved. It is a mangled, burnt out wreck.

Additional Details

MB031246 Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] A powerful car bomb exploded near the main entrance to Durban Harbor early this morning, killing 3 people and injuring 12. The victims were a white women, a black woman, and a black man. Twelve people were injured by shards of flying glass, five of them seriously. One women is in a critical condition. Most of those injured were white adults, but they also included two small children, a black man and an Indian.

The explosion tore a deep hole in the street and hurled the car containing the bomb about 100 meters along the embankment. Five other cars were damaged and the windows in two nearby buildings were shattered. Police immediately cordoned off the area and began a search for any other bombs. One of the damaged buildings houses the offices of the South African Indian Council. The site of the explosion is also diagonally opposite the South African Department of Internal Affairs, which was damaged by a bomb blast in 1981.

No one has yet claimed responsibility for the atrocity, but similar acts of terrorism have previously been carried out by the ANC.

Cabinet Meeting on Bombing

MB030907 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] The cabinet will this morning discuss the bomb explosion in Durban, in which 3 people were killed and five injured, at a meeting in Cape Town.

A white woman and 2 blacks were killed when a car bomb exploded at 0730 this morning in front of the John Ross Building. Five people were injured by glass fragments and damage was also caused to many cars and nearby buildings. The scene of the explosion is still closed.

Our parliamentary staff reports that the minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, will issue a statement after the cabinet meeting.

Agreement Reached on Text of Cahora Bassa Pact

MB022010 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] The deputy minister of foreign affairs, Mr Louis Nel, says South Africa and Mozambique have agreed on the text of a trilateral agreement with Portugal on the Cahora Bassa project. Interviewed by the South African Broadcasting Corporation, Mr Nel said agreement had already been reached with the Portuguese Government, and therefore no problems were foreseen in ironing out the finer details. He said that if South Africa received its full quota of power from the project, Cahora Bassa could become an important source of electrical power for the country.

Group of Companies Offer To Build Hotel in Mozambique

MB301935 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 30 Mar 84

[Text] A group of South African companies has offered to build an 49 million rand hotel and casino complex in Mozambique: The managing director of the Rennie Group in Maputo,

Mr (Clive Stringer), said the offer had been made verbally to the Mozambique Government this week. A letter of intent would be sent to the Mozambique authorities in the next 2 weeks. He said that if the offer was acceptable, the group would build an hotel and casino on Inhaca Island, off Maputo Bay. The island is renowned for its fine beaches and fishing. This is the first known investment offer made to Mozambique by a South African-based company since the two countries signed a nonaggression accord 2 weeks ago.

Indians Said Invited To Join Colored Labor Party

MB021209 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text The minister of internal affairs, Mr F.W. de Klerk, has responded to reports that Indians have been invited to join the Coloured Labour Party.

Mr de Klerk said in a statement issued in Cape Town that at this stage he would urge the people concerned to make a comprehensive study of the Prohibition of Political Interference Act before committing themselves to any action. He said he was not prepared to comment on a speculative basis and that any meaningful comment could be made only once he had been presented with full details of what was being planned.

SWAZILAND

Police Raid in Matsapha Nets Suspected ANC Members

MB030610 Mbabane THE SWAZI OBSERVER in English 3 Apr 84 p 1

[By Donny Nxumalo, *OBSERVER* reporter]

[Excerpt] About 10 people, one of them suspected to be a high ranking official of the African National Congress [ANC], are being held by police for questioning after the dawn raid at Mobeni Flats in Matsapha over the weekend.

The commissioner of police, Mr Titus Msibi, could neither confirm nor deny about the alleged ANC official who is understood to be having close connections with the movement.

Mr Msibi told *THE OBSERVER* last night that among the 10 arrested were mainly from Mozambique. [sentence as published] "There may be one or two ANC members, but we are still sorting them out," Mr Msibi said.

ZAMBIA

President Kaunda Resumes Tour of Copperbelt

MB020449 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 1 Apr 84

[Text] His excellency the president, Dr Kenneth Kaunda, has told the Central Committee's Rural Development Subcommittee to strengthen the national agriculture extension services of the Ministry of Agriculture to boost food production. Dr Kaunda said this today and added that for the extension wing to be effective, extension officers would have to carry out educational programs on modern methods of agriculture to all people from ward level. He said he was happy with the hard work of Ndola's rural people inasfar as tool production is concerned but noted that their efforts were being hampered by lack of knowledge of modern farming methods. The president said this at Masaiti-Boma on his resumed tour of commercial enterprises and markets on the Copperbelt.

ZIMBABWE

Labor Minister Opens EEC-ACP Conference in Harare

MB021815 Harare Domestic Service in Ndebele 1110 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] The seventh conference of the European Economic Community-African, Caribbean and Pacific [EEC-ACP] Association opened in Harare today. On the Investigation of Methods for Providing Technical Assistance to Developing Countries is on the agenda. The conference will last 1 week and is being attended by 82 representatives. The minister of labor and social services, Comrade Frederick Shava, noted in his opening address that it was important to realistically review the type of technical assistance which is provided. He added that it is essential to encourage the spirit of self-reliance and development in developing countries.

Britain Aids Three Resettlement Projects

MB301748 Harare Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 30 Mar 84

[Text] Zimbabwe and Britain have signed the letters of exchange for three resettlement schemes in this country. The agreement was signed in Harare today by the minister of lands, resettlement, and rural development, Comrade Moven Mahachi, and the British high commissioner to Zimbabwe, Mr Martin Ewans. The schemes will help resettle about 750 families and will be funded by Britain and Zimbabwe on a 50-50 basis. They are (Sosombi) Stage 2 in the midlands, (Hoyoyo) Stage 2, near Mutoko, and (Wenyimbe), near Marondera. They are being funded at the cost of 6 million dollars.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, Comrade Mahachi said the government will continue to resettle people this year despite numerous constraints.

Housing Minister on Resettlement

MB010540 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 31 Mar 84

[Text] The minister of housing, Comrade Simbarashe Mumbengegwi, says the government has already identified eight resettlement areas throughout the country. Comrade Mumbengegwi told the Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation in Mutare yesterday that there will be one resettlement area in each of the country's provinces. He said the areas have been provided with equipment for molding bricks in preparation for the rural housing

program. He said the government is now moving into the next stage of the project by providing these resettlement areas with the necessary building materials.

Comrade Mumbengegwe praised most city councils for setting up building brigades.

Committee on Matebeleland Atrocities Adjourns
MB011209 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 1 Apr 84

[Text] The committee investigating the alleged atrocities by the Army in Matebeleland North has adjourned its hearing for the weekend. The secretary for the committee, Comrade John (Ngara), said the committee, which was sitting in Bulawayo, has gone to Harare to assess the mass of evidence given during the recent hearing. He said the committee has yet to decide on whether to collect more evidence or to proceed on the present evidence to make a final analysis.